

# **Report of the Secretary-General “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21”**

## **Draft Outline**

### **I. Introduction**

In its resolution 78/151 of 14 December 2023, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a particular focus on the state of play with regard to sustainable consumption and production and the application and promotion thereof, taking into account the impacts of, response to and recovery from COVID-19, and to recommend concrete actions to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in this regard.

In the same resolution, the General Assembly decided to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21”.

### **II. Promoting sustainable consumption patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21**

#### **A. Follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

*This section will provide an overview of the status 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, built on Agenda 21, which recognizes that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.*

With one in eight people in the world being on the move, the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs will not be achieved without due consideration of human mobility. Migration is an age-old coping and adaptation strategy that has lifted millions out of poverty. It remains today a powerful poverty reduction tool for migrants and their families as well as for the communities where they live, and they come from.

Mobility can benefit communities of origin, where it is linked to poverty reduction, increased innovation and entrepreneurship, and investment in businesses and human capital. Mobility can also benefit communities of destination, as migrants buoy specific labour markets, lead to greater productivity and contribute to countries' fiscal budget. Every additional 1% of immigration could boost GDP growth in destination countries by 2%, and eliminating mobility restrictions could increase world GDP by 11.5–12.5% (IMF, 2020). International remittances have grown from an estimated USD 128 billion to USD 831 billion (up by around 650%), underscoring the salience of international migration as a driver of development. Of that 831 billion in remittances, 647 billion were sent by migrants to low- and middle-income countries. These remittances can constitute a significant portion of those countries' GDPs, and globally, these remittances now surpass foreign direct investment in those countries (IOM, 2024).

Yet, migrants are more likely than non-migrants to be in poverty. Data from 36 countries around the world in 2015 showed that around 35% of international migrants were in or at risk of poverty, compared to just 23% of non-migrants exposure to poverty is often greater for specific migrant sub-groups, such as those from countries outside the region they live in. For example, 43% of non-EU migrants in European countries

were at risk of poverty while only 37% of migrants from other EU countries were (IOM, 2015). By not considering mobile populations as part of the solution, we are missing out on the further contributions they could make for advancing progress towards SDG 12 and other interrelated SDGs more specifically. Remittance transfer costs remain excessively high: the average costs of sending remittances to LMICs remained high at 6 per cent, well above the target of 3 per cent of the SDG Target 10.c.1. While these private funds cannot replace public spending, reducing remittance costs would increase their volume to directly help finance development in origin countries (IOM, 2023).

## **B. Sustainable Consumption and Production**

*Taking into account the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, this section will focus on the central role of Goal 12 on sustainable consumption and production as a cross-cutting goal supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.*

*It will refer to progress achieved in making fundamental changes in the way societies consume and produce goods and services through the transition to sustainable economic and business models that promote sustainable consumption and production patterns as well as enabling policies, policies, frameworks, partnerships, technological innovation and instruments that improve resource efficiency and the sustainable management of natural resources, including water-use efficiency, reduce waste, promote life-cycle approaches, encourage approaches such as the circular economy, life cycle and other approaches, as appropriate and taking into account national circumstance and capacities, enable consumers to make sustainable consumption choices, mainstream sustainability practices, encourage sustainable and environmentally sound bio-based products and increase resilience across all sectors of the economy, which will contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 12. It will also take consider the important role of private sector in prompting and utilizing sustainable practices.*

*It will also explore sustainable consumption and production approaches, in which products and materials are designed in such a way that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources of which they are made, the generation of waste is avoided or minimized, and greenhouse gas emissions are prevented or reduced.*

### **United Nations Development Systems' support for the implementation of SDG 12.**

*This sub-section will provide concrete examples of actions and initiatives being taken across the UN system in support of the implementation of the present resolution.*

*It will also include commitments and initiatives that provide tools for action on sustainable consumption and production, such as the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and its new Global Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Sustainable Patterns.*

- IOM's goal is to build on already available good practices and policies and strengthen internal governance

related to environmental sustainability, with a focus on three key environmental management areas: energy, water, and waste management. IOM is institutionally committed to working towards the highest possible level of environmental sustainability in its programs, facilities, and operations. The Organization aims to set up an environmental management system by 2030, in line with existing UN system-wide commitments. IOM has already developed a variety of policy tools seeking to reduce the environmental impacts of its operations through efficient resource management.

- For instance, as it relates to advancing progress on SDG 12, target 12.5 on reducing wastes and target 12.7 on responsible procurement practices, IOM has continued to implement and innovate with various new waste footprint reducing initiatives, such as:

- Encouraging staff to sort and properly manage trash and recycling, for example, by donating scraped electronics to different charity organizations to be recycled, reused, or used for vocational training (IOM Kenya).
- Including take-back clauses in procurement contracts, such as for used cartridges and toners, glass drink bottles.
- Supporting creative upcycling solutions, for example, by donating empty Nespresso capsules to artists for making jewelry and decorative artwork out of them (IOM Egypt).

- IOM also supports governments and local communities to implement more sustainable consumption and production activities, particularly linked to entrepreneurship, small businesses and livelihoods initiatives with regards to refugees, migrants and communities.

## **D. Financing for Development**

*This section will address the challenges of financing for development as envisaged in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including financing the shift to sustainable consumption and production.*

*It will also explore policy options that incentivize and attract private sector finance and adjust national public and private financial systems to mobilize resources for sustainable investment at the national and regional levels.*

## **E. Strengthening Science-Policy Interface**

*This section will assess the current state of scientific knowledge on sustainable development. innovative approaches to sustainability science, digital technologies.*

*It will refer to initiatives to harness science, technology and innovation, including new and emerging technologies, including through scaling up the use of open science, affordable and open-source technology, research and development to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals including SDG 12.*

*It will also explore initiatives from the international community to support developing countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.*

## **F. Partnerships for Sustainable Development**

*This section will examine the role of multi-stakeholder and cross-disciplinary partnerships as means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

*It will refer to partnerships at all levels, including with the United Nations system and international financial system, to advance innovative pathways to achieving sustainable consumption and production.*

*This section also will refer to partnerships that contribute to resource efficiency, sustainable management of natural resources, reduce waste, and increase resilience across all sectors of the economy, which will contribute to SDG 12 and 2030*

*It will also address the imperative of leaving no one behind by supporting countries to implement sustainability practices through joint delivery.*

## **III. Conclusions**

*This section will refer to policy implications necessary to achieve implementation of sustainable consumption and production as a cross-cutting goal to achievement 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*