



Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Angola to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY
DELEGATION OF ANGOLA**

HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM, JULY 2020

WRITTEN STATEMENT

820 Second Avenue, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Statement on

Are we leaving no one behind in eradicating poverty and working towards the 2030 Agenda?

Thursday, July 9th, 2020

We would like to commend the President of ECOSOC, for the efforts made to convene the annual High Level Political Forum, in a virtual format, despite the difficult times that we are all facing, due to the pandemic of COVID-19.

As we all know, COVID-19 has quickly turned into a crisis of catastrophic proportions, halting our efforts to implement the SDGs agenda.

In Angola, the government has been engaged in policies to ensure food security, reducing unemployment and diversifying the economy to lessen the dependence on a single commodity income. As you can imagine, these efforts have suffered a major setback, especially as we had already been struggling to recover from a major financial crisis.

Angola is now bracing for even more difficult and uncertain times, as unfortunately local COVID-19 numbers and casualties are rising. Measure are in place to try to control the spread of the infection but the Government is also facing a huge dilemma, between risking an even worse health crisis or increasing poverty. Lockdown means reducing the possibility for informal workers, who constitute a great percentage of our economic force, to go after their daily livelihood. Many of these informal workers are women, upon whom the survival of their families depends.

Despite the acceleration efforts that will have to be made, Angola remains committed to pursue the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, whenever it becomes possible, we also advocate for global debt relief and liquidity for global recovery. Most of these poverty related issues are not new; COVID-19 has made us realize how we are all in this together. We can not emphasize it enough, we need a global response, we have to act together and when we say that we will build back better, we have to mean it together.

Thank you.