

HLPF 2017 - VNR Questions inputs

The 2017 High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) will take place, under the auspices of ECOSOC, between 10 and 19 July 2017. The second week of the Forum will take place at the Ministerial Level, when 44 countries will make National Voluntary Reviews presentations, regarding their progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In accordance with A/RES/67/290, Major Groups and other stakeholders will have an opportunity to deliver short comments and ask key questions following each VNR presentation. Time will however be extremely tight and the chosen speakers will have to represent a broad range of views. The following form has been designed to allow the submission of inputs and suggestions from all those interested, including those that are not in attendance to the HLPF. While organizations and network that are engaged in national implementation and may have participated to any stage of the VNR preparation are particularly encouraged to provide comments, it is also possible for organizations and networks to provide cross-cutting comments.

Please keep your comments short and focused as time for interactive dialogue will be limited and a number of topics will have to be addressed by each intervention.

More information on the HLPF is available at: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf

Deadline: July 5, 2017

Link to the responses: <http://bit.ly/2s46obm>

*Obligatoire

Personal information

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Organization *

Belgian Disability Forum asbl (BDF)

Organization's website *

<http://bdf.belgium.be>

Organization's scope of work *

- Sub-national/local
- National
- Regional
- Global



Job Title *

Coordinator

Comments are pertaining to: *

Belgium ▼

Is your organization in consultative status with ECOSOC? *

- Yes
 No

The comments are submitted in: *

- Individual organization Capacity
 Network Capacity
 MGoS constituency Capacity
 Autre :

Does your organization participate in a Major Group or other stakeholder constituency? *

If you or your organization does not engage in MGoS, please select none.

- Women
 Children and Youth
 Indigenous Peoples
 NGOs
 Local Authorities
 Workers and Trade Unions
 Business and Industry
 Scientific and Technological community
 Farmers
 Local Communities
 Volunteer Groups
 Foundations
 Migrants
 Older Persons
 Persons with Disabilities
 Private Philanthropic Organizations
 Education and Academic Entities
 None
 Autre :



Please provide your focused input on the 2030 Agenda implementation in the VNR country where you work. Please use the guiding topics below



You can also provide cross-cutting inputs. In order to do so, please select "Cross-cutting/applies to all VNR countries" on the drop-down list of countries

Key progress in implementation that may not be captured by the VNR or that wants to be highlighted

Maximum: 300 words

Words related to disabilities appear in the VNR. It gives the impression that Belgium is paying attention to the situation of persons with disabilities (PwD). After reading, some appear to be cosmetic
PwD are facing high unemployment rate. Current "activation politics" are targeting PwD. But nothing is made to increase the responsibility of employers
Inclusive education is mentioned in the VNR. It is an unconditional right, whatever the situation of the person. Training the teachers to meet PwD is missing. The right for PwD to choose which educational system he needs is the key element
Accessibility and mobility are key to improve living conditions. NVR is vague about these. Mentioned actions are too punctual : lack of coordination between level of power, sanctions are missing
About production, NVR doesn't mention the Design for All principles, part of the CRPD
NVR doesn't show actions on access to information. Internet sites should be made fully accessible for every PwD

Key challenges on implementation that may not be captured by the VNR or that wants to be highlighted

Maximum: 300 words

Awareness about SDGs is low in Belgium in the general public : to be solved
Disability advisory councils are key in participation. They don't exist at every level of Federal Belgium. CRPD Committee recommended to create advisory council at each level with due means to fulfil their mission. It has not been encountered by several regional & communauteary governments
VNR is a list of actions which are not coordinated, nor subject to planning. The result is that persons in the same country have different living standards or services
PwD are at high risk of poverty. CoE Commissioner for Human Rights pointed it when visiting Belgium (15/04/2015). Federal government wrote in its declaration (9/10/2014) : "...the government will progressively increase the minimum social security and social assistance benefits to the level of the European poverty line...", but no action is taken
VNR says nothing about women's and girls with a disability. No action is taken to cope with multiple discriminations



Inclusive nature of national review and follow-up process

Maximum: 300 words

Participation and consultation of the civil society are not sufficient nor systematic enough, especially for DPOs : they were not included in the preparation and writing process

NVR praises the Belgian advisory councils. But disability advisory councils were NOT consulted

NVR put forward that the draft NVR was submitted to advisory councils for amendments... It was not submitted to disability advisory councils

NVR was published end June instead of May. Remaining time was insufficient to organise a proper consultation of the 17 BDF member organisations. It's important for DPOs in a country with 3 national languages and 3 sign languages for a VNR of 85 pages

During the last legislature an adaptation proposal of the article 22ter of the Belgian Constitution was introduced. It is still not voted. Doing so would be of great importance to guarantee that the situation of PwD is properly taken into account in every political decision. It would have an impact on how Belgium is acting for SDGs

Specific questions on the VNR report

Maximum: 300 words

When will Belgium develop an integrated plan concerning the situation of persons with disabilities?

When will Belgium develop a real integrated mobility and accessibility plan, with clearly defined objectives at short, medium and long term ?

When will Belgium reactivate a Disability interministerial conference?

When will Belgium have advisory councils of persons with disabilities at each level of the federated state ?

When will the Belgian government take steps in order to raise the minimum social security and social assistance benefits to the level of the European poverty line ?

When will Belgium conceive training modules about disability approach for professionals (teachers, architects, medics...)?

When will the Belgian Parliament vote the adaptation proposal of article 22ter of the Constitution ?

Any other relevant issue.

Votre réponse

ENVOYER

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