



Note by the secretariat

LETTER DATED 13 NOVEMBER 2023: INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF MGOs AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO A VIRTUAL CONSULTATION

Purpose

To inform the Group about the letter from the Summit of the Future Co-Facilitators on the invitation to representatives of MGOs and civil society to a virtual consultation.

Action required

This letter is transmitted to the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG **for information**.

References

[https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/summit-of-the-future;](https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/summit-of-the-future)

https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sotf_co-facs_letter_mgos_and_civil_society_13_nov_2023.pdf



Permanent Mission
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations
New York



New York, 13 November 2023

Preparatory Process for the Summit of the Future

Excellency,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We would like to thank **major groups and other stakeholders (MGoS)** as well as **civil society representatives** for their valuable engagement in support of the Summit of the Future through the previous session of the General Assembly, leading up to the preparatory Ministerial Meeting on the Summit of the Future on 21 September 2023.

Reference is made to the letter of the President of the General Assembly dated 10 October 2023. In this letter, the President announced our **reappointment as co-facilitators of the preparatory process for the Summit of the Future** during the 78th Session, in line with paragraph (c) of General Assembly decision 77/568. He invited the co-facilitators to work in a coordinated manner and to ensure that all relevant stakeholders participate and engage meaningfully in the consultations of this process.

The mandate set out in resolution 76/307 and decision 77/568 is for the co-facilitators “to facilitate **open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental consultations** on the preparatory process” of the Summit of the Future, while “allow[ing] adequate time for negotiations on the Pact for the Future.” In that same resolution, the Assembly “encourage[d] major groups and other stakeholders to participate and engage in the preparatory process of the Summit”.

To complement intergovernmental consultations with Member States in November and December, we are **inviting representatives of MGoS and civil society to a virtual consultation on 13 December 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. (as needed).**

The goal of this consultation is to give MGoS and civil society representatives the opportunity to share their overall views and expectations for the Summit and to offer concrete suggestions for the zero draft of its outcome document, the Pact for the Future, which co-facilitators plan to circulate by early 2024.

In preparing their interventions, representatives of MGoS and civil society are encouraged to **reflect on the scope of the Summit, as set out in decision 77/568**, as well as the understanding set out in our letter to the President of the General Assembly of 30 August 2023 and stated during the 99th meeting of the 77th session.

To ensure a structured, equitable, and effective participation, the following **sequence of speakers** will be observed:

1. Co-Chairs of the Coordination Mechanism of Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) (max. 5 minutes)
2. Representatives of individual MGoS, civil society coalitions and groups (max. 3 minutes each)

3. Representatives of individual NGOs, expert groups, private sector and other stakeholders (max. 2 minutes).

In this session, co-facilitators will also outline procedural milestones and provide modalities for the active engagement and participation of MGoS and civil society throughout the preparations for the Summit in September 2024.

In addition to the consultation, we also invite MGoS and civil society representatives to submit **written input for the preparation of the zero draft of the Pact for the Future**. This option will be available in the coming days [via the Summit of the Future website](#). The call for inputs will be sent to all the participants registered for this and the previous consultations on the Summit of the Future. **The deadline for submissions will be 31 December 2023**. Throughout the preparatory process, this website will provide an open-access repository for inputs from civil society and other stakeholders.

We kindly **request Member States to share this letter with relevant civil society groups and stakeholders** in their respective country. In order to ensure transparency and collective ownership, we **invite Member State and Observer delegations to join the meeting on 13 December** to hear the reflections of MGoS and civil society representatives. There is no registration required for Member States and Observers, who will receive the link via e-deleGATE.

MGoS and civil society representatives interested in participating in the consultation are asked to **register via this link** (see also QR code below). A link to the virtual room will be shared with registered participants before the event. During the meeting, the Secretariat will indicate in the chat box how connected stakeholders can inscribe on the list of speakers.

Furthermore, we would like to inform you that plans are ongoing for the next **UN Civil Society Conference**, scheduled for **May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya**. The focus of this conference will be the Summit of the Future. Its outcome could serve as consolidated input for Member States' consideration for the Pact for the Future.

We anticipate that these opportunities for engagement, in addition to initiatives taken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly as well as the independent initiatives already proactively undertaken by numerous MGoS, civil society, youth and other organizations in support of the Summit, will enable meaningful contributions to both the preparations for the Summit and the Summit itself.

Once again, we express our sincere gratitude to all delegations for entrusting us with their confidence and support, and their valuable contributions as we **work together towards achieving an ambitious outcome for the Summit of the Future**.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Antje Leendertse
Co-Facilitator

Permanent Representative of Germany
to the United Nations



Neville M. Gertze
Co-Facilitator

Permanent Representative of Namibia
to the United Nations

Registration for Virtual Consultation on 13 December 2023

