

# The High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

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*Nineteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the  
Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee of the  
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean  
Port of Spain, 17 May 2019*



# Background

- The establishment of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was mandated in 2012 by the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), "The Future We Want".
- The format and organizational aspects of the Forum are outlined in General Assembly resolutions 67/290 and 70/299

# Overview

- The HLPF provides the political leadership, orientation and recommendations for the implementation, follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda and promotes sustainable development.
- Since 2013, the HLPF convenes every year Ministers under the auspices of the ECOSOC. It convenes Heads of States every 4 years under the auspices of the General Assembly.
- Each year, it includes a series of side events and exchanges that encourage partnerships among multiple actors and proposes innovative solutions.

# Overview (cont.)

- Presentation of the annual SDG Report
- An in-depth review of certain SDGs each year
- Substantive discussion on various country groupings (SIDS, LDCs, etc.)
- Interventions from major groups and other stakeholders
- A ministerial segment, in which Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) are presented
- Report of the 5 Chairs of the Regional Fora on Sustainable Development in the ministerial segment

<b>Year</b>	<b><u>HLPF 2013</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2014</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2015</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2016</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2017</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2018</u></b>	<b><u>HLPF 2019</u></b>
<b>Theme</b>				“Ensuring that no one is left behind”	“Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world”	“Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”	“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”
<b>Result</b>	Summary of the first meeting of the HLPF	Ministerial Declaration	Ministerial Declaration	Ministerial Declaration	Ministerial Declaration	Ministerial Declaration	Summary of the President
<b>Under the auspices of</b>	GA	ECOSOC	ECOSOC	ECOSOC	ECOSOC	ECOSOC	ECOSOC
<b>LAC VNR</b>	NA	NA	NA	3	11	8	5
<b>SDGs in review</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 17	6, 7, 11, 12, 15, 17	4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17

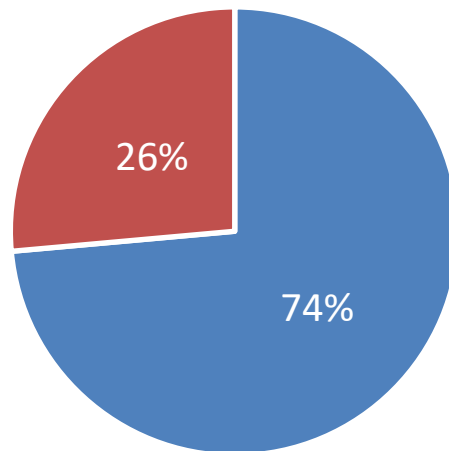
# Voluntary National Reviews from LAC

(21 member States, 3 Associate member States, 2016- 2019)

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colombia</li> <li>Mexico</li> <li>Venezuela</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Argentina</li> <li><b>Belize</b></li> <li>Brazil</li> <li>Chile</li> <li>Costa Rica</li> <li>El Salvador</li> <li>Guatemala</li> <li>Honduras</li> <li>Panama</li> <li>Peru</li> <li>Uruguay</li> </ol> <p><b>As part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aruba</li> <li>Curacao</li> <li>St. Marteen</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Bahamas</b></li> <li><b>Dominican Republic</b></li> <li>Ecuador</li> <li><b>Jamaica</b></li> <li>Paraguay</li> </ol> <p><b>For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colombia</li> <li>Mexico</li> <li>Uruguay</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Guyana</b></li> <li><b>St. Lucia</b></li> </ol> <p><b>For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chile</li> <li>El Salvador</li> <li>Guatemala</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</b></li> <li><b>Trinidad and Tobago</b></li> </ol> <p><b>For the 2<sup>nd</sup> time:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Argentina</li> <li>Costa Rica</li> </ol>

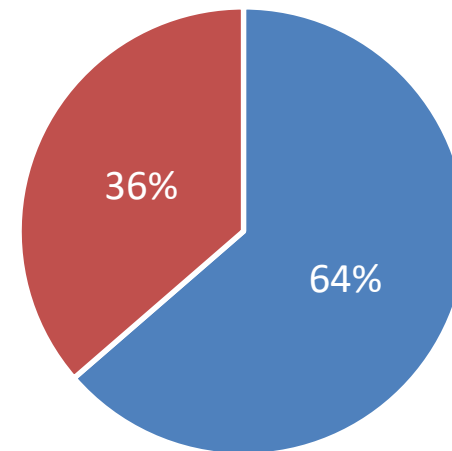
# The region demonstrates a great commitment to the 2030 Agenda in the first HLPF cycle (2016-2019)

All countries\*



■ Presented VNR ■ Did not present VNR

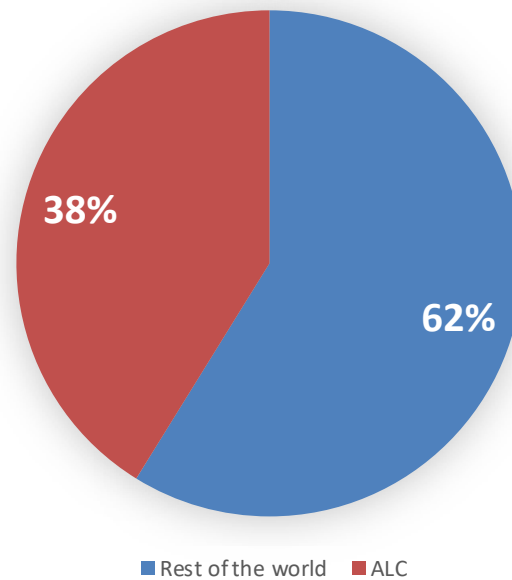
Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean



■ Presented VNR ■ Did not present VNR

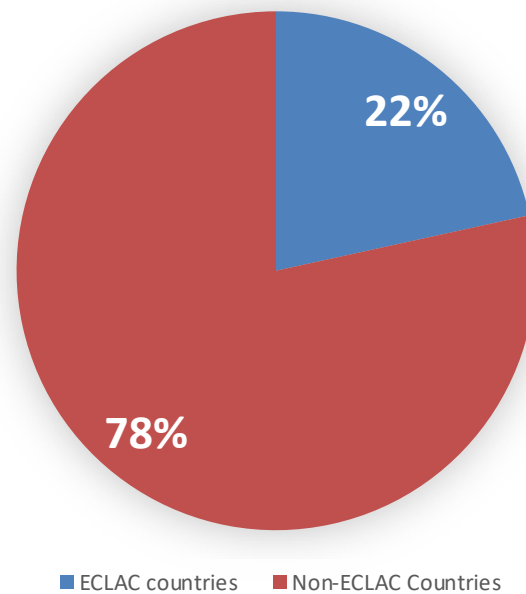
\*\*193 member States and Palestine

# 16 countries at the global level present more than once during the first cycle of the HLPF: 6 are from LAC (38%)





# 51 countries did not present their VNR during the first HLPC cycle: 11 are from LAC



# Who are we “leaving behind” in the VNR process ?

Country	Category
Antigua and Barbuda	SIDS
Barbados	SIDS
Bolivia	LLDC
Cuba	SIDS
Dominica	SIDS
Grenada	SIDS
Haiti	LDC
Nicaragua	MIC
Saint Kitts and Nevis	SIDS
St. Vincent and the Grenadines*	SIDS
Trinidad y Tobago*	SIDS

\* Have registered to present in the 2020 HLPF

# High Level Week of the General Assembly 2019

## Six high-level events during the 2019 GA:

- 23 September: Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit and high-level meeting on universal health coverage
- **24-25 September: SDG Summit/High Level Political Forum on sustainable development**
- 26 September: high-level dialogue on financing for development and high-level meeting on the elimination of nuclear weapons
- 27 September: high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States (SIDS) through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway

# The 2019 SDG Summit

24 September (afternoon) and 25 September

- **First HLPF meeting at the Heads of State level**, to follow up and review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs.
- **Chaired by the President of the General Assembly (PGA)**
- Will result in a **negotiated political declaration** (H.E. Ms. Sheila Gweneth Carey, Permanent Representative of Bahamas and H.E. Mr. Olof Skoog, Permanent Representative of Sweden appointed by PGA as co-facilitators to consult with Member States to produce it)
- The SDG Summit will seek **to mobilize support for action** to achieve the SDGs and will **encourage voluntary commitments** by governments and all stakeholders to accelerate action.

# Lessons learned on the first HLPF cycle

- VNR can be a tool for transformation
- VNR doesn't need to present a perfect picture:
  - It is an opportunity for stocktaking
  - It can be a tool to request partnerships
  - It can be a process that detonates institutional coordination for the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda
  - It can be a tool to build trust among stakeholders, engage different levels of government and a broad spectrum of actors, and increase awareness on the 2030 Agenda with the general public
  - It can become a regular exercise to assess and monitor progress to achieve the 2030 Agenda

# Thank you!

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