



SESSION 3: REGIONAL ROAD MAP FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE FORM AND FUNCTION OF THE ASIA - PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING FOLLOW - UP AND REVIEW PROCESS

Consolidated CSO Statement

Speaker: Marjorie Pamintuan, Asia Pacific Research Network | Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

Thank you chair. I also speak in behalf of Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism.

Civil Society is encouraged by willingness of member states to retain the APFSD, to move toward an ambitious roadmap and to articulate the form and function of the APFSD in this meeting. Further, the importance of retaining the forum as a multi-stakeholder, inclusive space for engagement and respecting the commitments made in resolution (67/290) on the High Level Political Forum.

We appreciate the concerns expressed by states that more time is required to develop a robust, ambitious and inclusive roadmap. We think the proposal put by the Chair (Sri Lanka) and supported by several states has merit.

We agree with states that the process of elaborating the roadmap should be time bound and completed expeditiously, allowing the decisions of this year's GA to be taken into consideration. It should, however, remain dynamic and allow for future evolution.

The elaborative process should honour the commitments made to ensure this is an inclusive and transparent process and trust the chair would consider methods to ensure this happens. We believe the methods employed by the Open Working Group to reach consensus on the SDGs sets a valuable guide.

We understand that some states expressed concerns that the APFSD should not create additional reporting burdens. Civil society shares the view that the APFSD should support and compliment existing reporting obligations of member states rather than create new obligations. Rather, this forum should provide an opportunity to create reporting coherence and brings a focus to reporting on matters of a regional nature.

The focus on regional, emerging issues and regional cooperation are of particular value to states with special needs including SIDS as well LDCs and LLDS and welcome that focus in the document.

There are 33 references to regional processes, cooperation and initiatives in the Agenda2030 resolution. These provide a starting point for the roadmap but the agenda also enables the forum to address new and emerging issues, particularly those requiring regional cooperation, as mandated.



Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

We understand that some states are concerned about the cost and efficiency of having multiple regional processes. We see value in incorporating other regional processes into the APFSD to cut down on duplication and enhance coherence. These could be elaborated in the roadmap.

Thank you.