



CROATIA

Statement by

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at

the SDG 16 Conference

Panel 3: The way forward: Leveraging SDG 16 to accelerate progress on shared priorities in line with the Pact for the Future and other multilateral agreements and processes

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Mr. Moderator,

Let me first thank the Permanent Mission of Italy, IDLO and DESA for organizing this conference and to the panelists for their insightful remarks.

This Conference is important to keep discussions on SDG16 ongoing here at the UN. Leveraging SDG 16 at the international level plays a vital role in accelerating progress on shared global priorities by fostering good governance, justice, and peace—cornerstones of sustainable development.

The Pact for the Future and other multilateral agreements emphasize collaborative approaches to addressing global challenges such as poverty, climate change, and social inequality, and SDG 16 provides the institutional framework to support these efforts.

Integrating SDG 16 into international governance structures accelerates the implementation of shared global priorities. Let me make three brief points in this regard.

Strong institutions that ensure fair access to justice, and promote democratic governance are essential for international cooperation and facilitate smoother negotiations and effective policy alignment with multilateral agreements which in turn ensure coordinated responses to crises, mobilize resources effectively, and avoid fragmented approaches.

Prioritization of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and human rights protections creates stable environment that allow sustainable development and global security measures outlined in the Pact for the Future.

And lastly, civil society including women and youth, media, and marginalized groups have to be empowered to meaningfully contribute to policymaking. SDG 16 ensures that global initiatives remain responsive to the needs of all communities, fostering widespread support and action.

I thank you.