

HLPF 2017 Civil Society and Youth Delegate Participation - An ICN Synthesis Report

September 2017

The 2017 meeting of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), was held from Monday July 10th to Wednesday July 19th 2017, and included a three-day ministerial meeting from Monday July 17th to Wednesday July 19th.

The nine day forum brought together a diversity of heads of state, dignitaries, and representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) from around the world to engage with this year's theme, "*Eradicating Poverty and Promoting Prosperity in a Changing World*," which includes a revision of six¹ of the [17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#). The SDGs and indicators, adopted as part of the [2030 Global Agenda](#), comprise the international community's ambitious global framework that will guide global, regional and domestic policy in order to tackle the world's most pressing issues, including poverty, inequality and climate change.

The official Canadian delegation to the HLPF was only present during the three-day ministerial meeting, and included two representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs), and two Canadian youth. This was the first time in over a decade that the official Canadian Delegation to an international meeting included CSO or youth representatives. This was the result of months of advocacy of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation (ICN) for the inclusion of civil society and youth on official Canadian delegations to international meetings. On June 21st, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), called on the ICN to launch a process for the selection of civil society and youth representatives to be part of the official Canadian delegation to the 2017 HLPF.

A network of eight councils, representing nearly 400 CSOs from coast to coast to coast, the ICN has worked in ensuring that the voices of youth and Canadian CSOs are part of Canada's international development conversations. This initiative is in line with the Government of Canada's focus on youth and commitment to engaging and mobilizing Canadians as global citizens. Selected for their commitment to and expertise in sustainable development work, the four representatives equipped the Canadian delegation with the important perspectives of youth and CSOs, whose involvement in the SDGs has been recognized as essential to their achievement.

Representing Canadian CSOs were **Deborah Glaser, Senior Policy Analyst** for the [British Columbia Council for International Cooperation \(BCCIC\)](#), and **Adil Skalli, Project Officer** at the [United Nations Association in Canada](#). The youth delegates to the official delegation were **Marilyn Verghis** and **Morrell Andrews**, recent university graduates with a passion for global issues.

One of the terms of agreement between the ICN and the CSO and youth delegates was that delegates would provide the ICN with a written report of their experience at the HLPF, the contents of which would be shared with the sector, and that would inform an ICN synthesis report to GAC.

The following synthesis report will provide the following:

1. An outline of the organizing entity's role, process, and resources invested,
2. A summary of the experience and outcomes of the CSO representatives and youth participation as official delegates,
3. Recommendations for similar processes in the future, for the organizing entity, GAC, as well as future CSO and youth delegates.

¹ The six SDGs under review this year were Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14. This is in addition to Goal 17, which would be reviewed every year.

THE ICN'S ROLE AS AN ORGANIZING ENTITY

Timeline of Activities

On January 17th, 2017, the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC), the current host Council of the ICN, wrote to Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Cooperation and La Francophonie, requesting CSO representation and youth inclusion on the official Canadian delegation to the 2017 HLPF.

On June 21st, GAC informed the BCCIC that this request has been accepted, and that the ICN serve as the organizing entity for delegate selection.

In the span of a little over three weeks (June 21st to July 14th), to facilitate the participation of two CSO and two youth delegates to the 2017 HLPF, the ICN was able to:

- Develop a selection process and criteria, which included convening two selection committees formed of sector and youth leaders across Canada, to apply the principle of self-selection,
- Develop an application process and launch a public call for applications through ICN and Council communications channels,
- Receive, respond to, and review communications and applications from interested persons,
- Support the selected persons by coordinating with GAC, holding a pre-departure briefing call, and creating sharing mechanisms for the four delegates, and
- Communicate the selection and participation of the delegates through a national press release, and through ICN social media channels.

During the HLPF, the ICN maintained very active social media communications on the participation of the delegates, as well as interesting events.

After the HLPF, the ICN conducted a post-HLPF survey of the delegates, and has produced this synthesis report of the individual reports of the four delegates.

It would be important to note that due to the very short timeline between the request by GAC to launch a call for CSO and youth delegates, and the actual 2017 HLPF, the provincial Council of International Cooperation of Québec, [*l'Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale*](#) (AQOCI), did not participate in the process, nor put out a call for applicants in Quebec. Considering this short timeline, the lack of additional resources to support the delegate selection process, as well as AQOCI's position, the ICN decided against devoting time and resources to translation of materials. Despite this, there were a number of delegates from Quebec who did apply, and one of the selected applicants, who served as a youth delegate, is a resident of Quebec.

For a more detailed Timeline of activities, as well as a report on ICN communications, refer to [Appendix I](#).

Application Process

The ICN developed two application processes for the CSO and youth delegate positions.

All applicants were asked to submit the following, to delegate@icn-rcc.ca by July 4th at 5 pm PDT.

- A CV / résumé, and
- A letter of motivation containing answers to the following questions.

For applicants to the CSO delegate position

- Past and current experience relevant to sustainable development, international development or advocacy
- What is your organization doing around the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?
- Why is civil society participation important for global sustainable development? (less than 300 words)
- How can I contribute to the Canadian delegation and the conference? (less than 200 words)
- How do I plan to finance my participation? (~CAD \$1,500 - CAD \$2,500)

For applicants to the youth delegate position

- Why is youth participation important for global sustainable development? (less than 300 words)
- How can I contribute to the Canadian delegation and the conference? (less than 200 words)
- Past and current experience relevant to sustainable development, international development or advocacy
- Have you interned at a NGO before? Are you studying in a relevant field of study at your post-secondary institution? Have you done any kind of projects relating to these areas?
- How do I plan to finance my participation? (~CAD \$2,000 - CAD \$2,500) or do you require funding?²

Selection Criteria

The selection committees, and the ICN co-developed selection criteria for all applicants.

These assessed candidates’:

- Eligibility (stipulated by Global Affairs Canada),
- Experience at international meetings, with the SDGs, working with a CSO, and in youth engagement, and
- Their willingness and capacity to follow-up and report on their participation.

The selection committees took the following factors into consideration, when possible, in making the overall selection

- Gender equity,
- Regional equity, and
- Accessibility to funding.

For a breakdown of the selection criteria please refer to [Appendix II](#).

² Global Affairs Canada offered full subsidization to only one of the two youth delegate positions. For this reason, the application process and selection criteria communicated and took into consideration the capacity of the applicant to self-fund or fundraise for their participation.

Resources

The ICN's role as an organizing entity involved the following persons:

- Council Executive Directors,
- Council Staff,
- Sector and youth leaders for the selection committees,
- The ICN National Coordinator, and
- ICN volunteers.

For a detailed breakdown of the responsibilities and activities undertaken by each of these groups, please refer to [Appendix III](#).

The ICN did not benefit from additional financial or human resource support to facilitate its role as the organizing entity. The entire process required at least 80 hours of ICN Executive Director and National Coordinator time. It also required at least 2 hours of the involved Council staff-person's' time.

It further required at least 3 hours of each selection committee member's time. The estimated total number of hours required facilitating this process of delegate selection, support and reporting is 120 hours.

It is important to bear in mind that the approval of the two CSO and two youth seats was unanticipated, particularly at a date that was quite close to the dates of the actual event. This unanticipated workload did impact the timely execution of ICN project tasks.

Delegate Feedback on ICN's Role as an Organizing Entity

In a post-event survey, the four delegates shared their reflections on the ICN's role as an organizing entity, in light of the limitations and opportunities of the context in which it exercised this role.

All delegates were satisfied with the ICN's communications with applicants and delegates regarding this opportunity. Most delegates were satisfied with ICN pre-departure logistical support. All delegates indicated that they were overall satisfied with the role of the ICN.

DELEGATE EXPERIENCE AS PART OF THE CANADIAN OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO THE 2017 HLPF

Events Attended

CSO and youth delegates participated in the following activities and events:

- The official programme, including the Opening Statement, the Voluntary National Reviews (13 noted of the 43 total), the General Debate, and the Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration and the draft report of the HLPF,
- Special events such as the Partnership Exchange,
- Ten side-events,
- Three meetings with the Canadian delegation and Government of Canada officials,
- Meetings of the CSO and youth delegates,
- Eight youth-specific events attended by the youth delegates, and
- Ongoing meetings with global civil society groups.

Apart from events and meetings attended and facilitated during the three-day ministerial meeting portion of the HLPF, one of the delegates representing CSOs, participated in and facilitated events during the first week of the HLPF. These are not noted here though there were some significant outcomes in terms of contribution to the meeting, the sector (visibility, capacity and resources), the subject matters, as well as the general perception of the Canadian delegation.

Please see [Appendix IV](#) for a list of events attended by delegates. Please note that this list may not be complete and was extracted from what was reported by delegates in their report to the ICN.

Parameters and Scope of official and unofficial Participation and Engagement

Parameters

The CSO representatives and youth on the official Canadian delegation were guided by two sets of parameters for their engagement. As CSO and youth delegates, the four selected persons were reminded and encouraged to not speak on behalf of the sector as a whole. They were encouraged to speak on behalf of an organization that they officially represent, if they were empowered to do so. They were also encouraged to refer to collective statements or broad concerns of the sector if these are clearly documented, such as broad policy documents that clearly capture the collective thinking of the sector such as the International Assistance Review consultation documents submitted by the ICN.

As official Canadian delegates, Global Affairs Canada provided clear parameters for delegates' participation and communication, which included the expectation of confidentiality, and limits of their external communication with anyone outside the Canadian delegation, including the media.

Scope

As official Canadian delegates, the CSO representatives and youth were invited to and participated in various meetings of the official Canadian delegation. There was neither formal request, nor the time necessary, for delegates to consult with the sectors and populations they represent in Canada, nor were they, as representatives, offered opportunities to consult on the Canadian position. In fact, a number of the CSO and youth delegates lamented the missed opportunity of doing so, and the impact that it had on their sense of belonging and capacity to fully participate as members of the official Canadian delegation.

Nonetheless, the CSO representatives and youth on the official Canadian delegation did actively participate in official HLPF 2017 programming, including side-events, as Canadians representing civil-society and youth. The youth delegates in

particular made interventions at certain side-events that focused on the importance of youth inclusion in official processes, dialogues and representations of all member states.

The CSO and youth delegates' most significant contribution, however, was in sector or youth-related meetings, and particularly meetings of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS). MGoS are the nine sectors of society that have been recognized by the UN as active participants in sustainable development discussions and have been formalized into groups that are the primary channels through which ECOSOC engages with these stakeholders. One of the CSO delegates reported that within the MGoS, there were two in particular that offered space for information-sharing and strategizing for the sector. These are the Non-Government Organization Major Group (NGO MG), and Together 2030. According to the same delegate, Together 2030, which is a coalition of global civil society organizations, provided the best space for immediate and direct inputs into the HLPF negotiations and processes. It was through Together 2030 that this delegate participated in developing interventions to be read from the floor.

Valuable participation in these parallel spaces, afforded by the delegates' reception of a badge allowing them access to these spaces, presented delegates with the delicate position of representing both Canada, and the sector. Delegates had to exercise caution and not divulge sensitive information or contravene Canadian interests in any way as an official representative of Canada.

Significant Learnings and Outcomes for the Sector

Delegates

All delegates acknowledged that even though there was not an overall strategy for their participation as official Canadian delegates in the HLPF, being an official delegate, and particularly the access that it offered, afforded them very valuable opportunities that would not have been possible otherwise.

These opportunities included:

- Exclusive meetings with higher-level Government of Canada officials,
- Relationship-building with key national and international policy makers, and international civil society organizations (see above),
- Higher impact of their contributions and interventions to the delegation and the sector, formal and informal,
- Capacity to attend closed meetings, and gather valuable information to help strengthen their own understanding and capacity to address the SDGs, and
- Representing Canada (which resulted in an increased sense of civic belonging and pride for many of the delegates and which would not have been fostered had they attended under regular consultative status).

To better understand the impact of their participation as members of the official Canadian delegation to the 2017 HLPF a post-event survey of the four delegates was conducted to assess their change in interests, understandings, skills and capacities.

Overall the delegates reported an increase in their **levels of understanding and capacity to engage on global issues, sustainable development.**

They also indicated an **increased sense of understanding of the current and potential role of Canada in implementing the SDGs, as well as the challenges the Government faces in doing so.** This was coupled with a **greatly increased capacity to collaborate with Global Affairs Canada.** Most significantly, most delegates reported an **increased sense of civic belonging, engagement and pride.**

Delegates also indicated an increase in their levels of understanding and capacity to participate in international meetings, and in public engagement, collaboration with multiple stakeholders and peer learning. One of the delegates indicated that this was “the first time [they’ve] felt welcome to advocate for youth and minority/marginalized youth inclusion so openly.”

All delegates found that the HLPF was a very effective in-person networking, as well as peer learning, opportunity. Most delegates found that it was an effective opportunity to access and share development sector information and analysis.

All delegates indicated that they would be interested not only in participating in follow-up events to share their experience and mentor others, but also to organize these events.

For the detailed survey results please refer to [Appendix V](#).

General

- Development of interventions for the sector, one of which was on leveraging interlinkages for effective implementation of SDGs. This intervention made it into the official records of the meeting.
- Contribution of language used to refer to civil society’s work on the SDGs, such as the “Global Invisible Mosaic”. This phrase was used on two public occasions by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development.
- Advocacy for Canada to pursue and support mechanisms to implement and report on the SDGs.
- Validation, and advocacy for the experience and contribution of the sector to Government of Canada processes, policies, practice (and specifically delegations) and reputation.
- Particular advocacy for meaningful CSO and youth participation and inclusion in all member state consultations, negotiations, processes and official delegations. The youth were particularly active in this regard and made their concerns and requests heard at various fora and to representatives of the G20, President of ECOSOC, and the new Envoy on Youth to the United Nations Secretary General, among others.
- Information-sharing, collaboration, support and capacity-building offered to other CSO and youth participants and organizations at the HLPF, including through facilitated side-events, as well as strategic planning meetings.
- Public information-sharing and community engagement, through traditional communications and social media. One of the youth delegates reported that her Tweets related to youth participation at the HLPF earned 15.7 thousand impressions.
- One of the youth delegates has since been asked to be a keynote speaker at a Chinese government event on youth and the SDGs in Nanjing.
- Relationship-consolidation and building, to leverage and support all of the above: CSO and youth delegates developed relationships with some key national and international policy makers, and international civil society organizations, with the purpose of:
 - Deepening inter-sectoral collaboration in Canada
 - Collaborating on common objectives with international civil society organizations
 - Advocating for the inclusion of youth in official national processes for all member states

These relationships include:

- Ms. Celina Caesar-Chavannes, M.P. of Whitby, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development.
Delegates had at least one official follow-up phone call with Ms. Caesar-Chavannes where CSO and youth participation on official Canadian delegations at international meetings was discussed, among other subjects. A couple of the delegates have also had individual follow-up conversations with her.
- Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, Envoy on Youth for the Secretary General of the United Nations.
Youth delegates attended a few meetings with the new Envoy on Youth, recently appointed on June 20th, 2017, and had the opportunity to help set the youth agenda during her first official week in this new position.

- Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the United Nations General Assembly.
- Official and unofficial youth delegates across member states creating spaces, sharing best practices, and advocating for youth inclusion in official national processes and delegations at international meetings.
- One of the youth delegates had a follow-up call with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to discuss youth inclusion. This delegate brought up the matter of youth inclusion at the 2017 HLPF.

Significant Learnings and Outcomes for Canada

Official Delegation

As members of the official Canadian delegation, the CSO representatives and youth, formally and informally contributed the following to the official delegation:

- Input, where possible, in negotiations and processes that reflect the interests and needs of a broad cross-section of Canadian society.
- Information on how the sector has been active in implementing, tracking progress on reporting on the SDGs.
- Facilitating meetings between the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN and MGs, particularly the Women’s MG.
- Input on Canada’s future VNR reporting process.
- Best practices and proposals for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs, gleaned from learnings at various HLPF side-events.
- Best practices and proposals for principles and mechanism of recruitment and selection of official delegates representing CSOs and youth, gleaned from encounter and collaboration with other CSO and youth delegates.
- Representation and support of Canada’s policy and position on certain issues, and language (such as for the Canadian delegation’s concern with the weakness of the language on gender in the official HLPF Ministerial Declaration).

Government of Canada

More broadly, the participation of the CSO representatives and youth on the Canadian delegation, resulted in these indirect outcomes for the Government of Canada:

- Showcasing and promoting Canadian innovation in the sector.
- Recognized international leadership in having CSO and youth members of the official delegation.
- Understanding and buy-in from key stakeholders (CSO representatives and youth), that reported a greater sense of civic belonging and participation.
- Appreciation by the sector for the space created for CSO and youth inclusion.
- Alignment with the [CSO Partnership Policy](#), promoting sustainability, transparency, and accountability.
- Alignment with Canadian commitments to youth inclusion, and particularly the Prime Minister’s efforts in that regard
- Alignment with the [Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness](#).

RECOMMENDATIONS

For Future Organizing Entities

The experience of serving as the organizing entity for CSO and youth participation on the official Canadian delegation to the 2017 HLPF has affirmed the value of applying certain principles, as well as offered some valuable lessons learned. These are outlined below:

Timing

The organizing entity requires significant advance notice of its role, as well as time to develop and implement a process that would be aligned with principles important to the sector. The ICN recommends at least a three month period to allow for an appropriate process honouring the principles below. Insufficient time allocated to the process results in a less transparent, consultative and accessible process and acts as a liability to the integrity of the organization.

Participation and Accessibility

The opportunity to serve as a CSO representative or youth delegate should be as open and accessible to as many members of the sector and young population as possible. The onus is on the organizing entity to publicize a national call for applications that would reach the most persons from coast to coast to coast. This can happen through civil society networks located across the country.

The organizing entity should also take into account, in the application and selection processes, as well as selection criteria, the need to assure accessibility of these processes and opportunities to the diversity of the Canadian population, including underrepresented and marginalized groups.

The principle of participation and accessibility should also extend to the persons serving on the selection committees. Members of the selection committee should also represent the diversity of members of the sector and young populations across Canada.

Accountability and Impartiality

It is important for the organizing entity to bear in mind that their responsibility and accountability is to the sector as a whole and not their own organization, as the organization would be tasked by the Government of Canada to select delegates representing the sector, with all its diversity, and not only their own organization, or organizational interests. Networks are ideally suited to this neutrality and can be held accountable by a broad membership base.

This would also extend to the selection of delegates, when the organization would need to exercise the principle of impartiality, assuming no preference for persons involved in the organizing entity itself. Neither, however, should persons involved in the organizing entity who have an arm's length relationship from the selection committee be prohibited from participating.

Principles of Selection

Based on the ICN's experience as an organizing entity for the 2017 HLPF CSO and youth delegate selection process, as well as experience with other delegate selection processes, the following key principles were identified as effective and ethical for delegate selection:

- **Self-selection:** the selection committee should be made up of a diversity of peers. Government should not hand pick delegates but let the sector self-select who will attend on behalf of CSOs. This ensures that a diversity of opinions and the potential for representatives who may differ on official government policy can best represent the voice of CSOs.

- **Transparency:** the organizing entity should be fully transparent about the selection criteria, process, and committees. Both the organizing entity, as well as the selected delegates, should be fully transparent about the allowances or benefits of participation.
- **Representation:** the organizing entity should alert and remind the selected delegates that though they will serve as the CSO and/ or youth participants on a delegation that they should not speak on behalf of the entire sector, as this representation will likely not be accepted unanimously by those who identify themselves as members of the sector, or young populations.
- **Responsibility to report back to the sector:** on the other hand, both the organizing entity and selected delegates would need to recognize their position of insight and privilege as official delegates, and would have to realize their responsibility to report back to the sector, and support the sector through information and resource-sharing, capacity-building, collaboration and mentoring.

Criticism

It is inevitable, to a certain degree, to avoid criticism, regardless of the investment of thoughtfulness and rigour in the selection process; however, in order to mitigate this, the organizing entity should be a national network of organizations, umbrella organization, or coalition, rather than one of the organizations in the sector.

This is to avoid the risk of any one organization's principles or agenda unduly influencing the selection process.

For the Government of Canada

The four CSO and youth delegates offered very specific advice for the organizers of official Canadian delegations that would support and maximize the contributions of those persons to the delegation. These include:

Institutionalizing the inclusion of CSO and youth delegates in all official delegations

Involvement of CSO and youth delegates should not be a one off or ad hoc practice but instead institutionalized as a key component of Canada's participation in international fora. This would allow all Canadian delegations to benefit from the contributions of civil society and youth that they offered at the 2017 HLPF, outlined above. This would further position Canada as a leader in implementing the "Guiding Principles of Supporting Young People as Critical Agents of Change in the 2030 Agenda", an outcome of the 2017 HLPF, as well as other statements of affirmation of the role of youth and CSO participation at the HLPF, such as by ECOSOC, the G20, the United Nations General Assembly, and the United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth

Timing

Whatever process adopted for the inclusion of CSO and youth delegates should be communicated well ahead of time to the entity responsible for delegate selection, as well as the greater sector and young populations. This would not only allow for a robust, transparent, consultative, accessible, impartial process, as outlined above, but also for sufficient time for those persons without access to funding to fundraise or gather resources to self-fund.

Selection Process

The responsible Government department should require the organizing entity to apply all the principles of an appropriate selection process as outlined above.

It should further encourage processes that facilitate and favour the selection of persons reflecting Canadian diversity, including but not limited to *Indigenous peoples, youth, gender, LGTBQA+, ethnic diversity, differently-abled individuals, veterans, as well as rural and remote applicants.*

Funding

The responsible Government department should make funding available to CSO and youth participants on official delegations, or at least make provisions for funding delegates who would require financial support to be able to fully participate. This is particularly pertinent to youth delegates who do not represent or are affiliated with a CSO that might be able to support them.

This can be done by scaling funding according to the priority of the meeting. If the meeting is of a higher profile and priority, then the Government could offer funding to sector and youth representatives according to Treasury Board directives.

It should be noted, that sector and youth representatives would still want to participate even if there is no funding available.

Support for Delegates

The responsible Government department should have a shared strategic vision for engaging in international meetings, as well as offer practical support to delegates prior to, during and after the meeting. This would include:

- Prior briefing and orientation, such as on the meeting, its purpose, and how it functions.
- Prior information-sharing on the Canadian position.
- Clear guidance on roles and expectations of the delegates in the daily proceedings of the meeting.
- Consultation with youth and civil society for meaningful inputs into the meetings (negotiations, presentations, side events, etc...).
- Opportunities for sharing experiences and ‘course correcting’ throughout the event.

For Canada’s role in implementing and reporting on the SDGs

- Canada should pursue an effective, measurable national strategy for implementation of the SDGs. This strategy should also provide stronger support for CSOs that amplify people’s voices and empower citizens.
- Canada should use “citizens language” when communicating about the SDGs, and make information as widespread and accessible as possible, allowing Canadians to set goals for themselves and their communities,
- Canada should share positive stories about tackling global issues, with the public, to regain their trust and sense of hope,
- Canada should submit a VNR, with a youth section, coordinated by youth. Youth should also be part of the official presentation.

For future CSO and youth participants on official delegations

The four delegates offered the following guidance for effective CSO and youth engagement in official delegations.

Prior to the meeting

- Research and be well-informed on the subject matter.
- Research and be well-informed on the process.
- Research and be well-informed on Canada’s position, any documents or official resolutions, and key points under discussion.
- Connect with other CSO and youth delegates to share experience, insights, and to develop strategy for participation.
- Consult with the sector or youth across the country to hear their concerns and priorities, in order to best advocate for and represent their views.

- Connect with other sector or youth delegates from other countries to coordinate activities, advocacy initiatives and communications.
- Identify your own priorities and objectives in participating in the meeting.
- Identify which organizations and stakeholders will be present and set up meetings ahead of time.
- Identify which events to attend or contribute to.
- Identify what key messages and interventions to get across as a representative of civil society or youth.

At the meeting

Logistics

- Arrive early and familiarize yourself with the building and program.
- Dress professionally but do not feel pressured to dress in Western business attire.
- Plan your days, in light of your priorities and objectives.
- Pace yourself. Often days are quite long and full.

Participation

- Take notes, particularly during side-events. Identify good ideas and follow-up tasks. It is often helpful to write a short daily report.
- At the same time, try to remain present and actively engage with what is being shared.
- Be respectful, controlled, polite, diplomatic and conscientious in the way you share things, particularly in the way you refer to other countries, policies and leaders.
- Do not speak on behalf of a whole population or group unless you have been officially empowered to do so.
- Adhere to the official delegation's principles and values, and do not contravene the interest of Canada in how you present yourself, what you say or do.
- Offer your perspective as a member of civil society or as a youth.
- Feel free to ask questions.

Relationship-Building

- Do not hesitate to introduce yourself to other delegates, Canadians, or members of international civil society.
- Focus on building-relationships and learning from others.

Communications

- Maintain an active profile on social media, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, and consider live posting

CONCLUSION

Despite the very short timeline and consequent challenges to the process for ensuring CSO and youth inclusion on the Canadian official delegation to the 2017 HLPF, the participation of those four delegates had a significant positive impact on the delegates themselves, the sector (in Canada and internationally), the Canadian delegation, the Government of Canada, and Canada's role and capacity in implementing and monitoring progress towards Agenda 2030.

Most delegates indicated that even if none of the conditions of the process or participation changed, they would still participate and recommend this opportunity to other members of civil society and youth.

The ICN continues to advocate for what was also called for by the delegates: institutionalizing the inclusion of CSO and youth delegates in all official delegations that Canada sends to key international meetings. To effectively ensure the meaningful participation of civil society and youth, a process would have to allow for sufficient time and resources, and be delegated to an organizing entity that is neutral, trusted, effective, and with sufficient reach and capacity to do so.

The ICN wishes to thank the four delegates who participated fully in this opportunity, shared their experience and offered their insights and recommendations through their individual reports, and in their responses to the satisfaction survey.

For further information, resources or questions on the ICN, future opportunities, or the contents of this report, please contact or refer to:

Sara Farid

National Coordinator, Inter-Council Network

icn.rcc@bccic.ca

(604) 260 0424

www.icn-rcc.ca

APPENDIX I: Timeline and Report of ICN Activities as an Organizing Entity

Tuesday January 17 th	BCCIC writes to Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau , Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, requesting CSO representation and youth inclusion at the 2017 HLPF.
Thursday April 27 th	BCCIC follows-up with GAC on request for CSO representation and youth inclusion.
Thursday May 11 th	Deirdre Kent, Director General, Development Policy, GAC and team, meet with ICN to discuss the request.
Wednesday June 21 st	GAC informs Michael Simpson , Executive Director of BCCIC, the current host Council of the ICN, of their approval to allocate 2 seats to CSO representatives, and 2 seats to youth , on the official Canadian delegation to the 2017 HLPF.
<i>Wednesday June 21st – Wednesday June 28th</i>	ICN and Council Executive Directors and staff develop an open application process, equitable selection criteria, and an impartial selection process based on the principle of self-selection for CSO and youth delegate selection.
Thursday June 29 th	The ICN launches a public call for applications shared through Council and ICN communications channels.
Friday June 30 th	Two selection committees are struck to review applications for CSO and youth delegates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The CSO delegate selection committee consisted of senior sector leaders, located across Canada. ▪ The youth delegate selection committee consisted of youth, actively involved in youth engagement on global issues, located across Canada, including a youth from Whitehorse.
<i>Friday June 30th – Tuesday July 4th</i>	Selection committees collaborate on criteria and process for reviewing applications and coming to a collective recommendation to the ICN.
Tuesday July 4 th @ 5:00 PDT	Deadline for receiving applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 46 applications were received – 14 for the CSO and 31 for the youth delegate positions.
<i>Tuesday July 4th – Wednesday July 5th</i>	Selection committees review applications and make a recommendation to the ICN.
Wednesday July 5 th	Selected applicants are notified of their selection as the CSO and youth representatives on the official Canadian delegation. The names of those selected are sent to the responsible persons at GAC.
Thursday July 6 th	CSO and youth delegates are sent an ICN Letter of Agreement outlining their roles and responsibilities as CSO and youth representatives, as well as reporting requirements to the ICN.
Friday July 14 th	The ICN holds a briefing call with the CSO and youth delegates to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Further outline their roles and responsibilities to the Canadian delegation, and to CSOs and the sector, ▪ Share information about Canadian participants at the HLPF, ▪ Provide reporting requirements back to the ICN and through it to the sector as a whole, and ▪ Offer guidance and support on security and logistics. The ICN creates a Google folder to enable sharing of information among delegates.
Friday July 14 th	The ICN issues a Press Release .
<i>Monday July 17th – Wednesday July 19th</i>	The ICN actively communicates about the HLPF and the CSO and youth delegate experience through its social media .

Wednesday August 2nd CSO and youth delegates to **send reports to ICN**.

Tuesday August 22nd **ICN sends post-event satisfaction surveys** to CSO and youth delegates.

August 31 National Coordinator produces HLPF synthesis report based on individual delegate reports and internal monitoring and evaluation meetings.

ICN Communications Activities and Report

Please note that the ICN social media channels are in the early process of development. Even then, there are some interesting observations about engagement with particular posts.

Channel	Number of Posts	Reach	Notes
Facebook	6 French 8 English	14 – 228 persons reached per post	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two posts tagged Global Affairs Canada Most popular posts were those featuring the two youth delegates The youth delegates' use of social media made a substantial contribution the reach of the posts A recent post of an IISD publication announcing that Canada will be submitting a voluntary national review at the next HLPF did exceptionally well relative to the reach of the other posts – contributing to a 75% increase in engagement.
Twitter	3 French 6 English	2,430 impressions	
Newsletter (HLPF Press Release)	Bilingual	184 persons – 42% click rate (non-profit industry average is 21.7%)	This Newsletter was also posted on BCCIC media, increasing its reach.
Press Release	English	100 media contacts	

APPENDIX II: Selection Criteria

Eligibility Criteria (stipulated by Global Affairs Canada)

- Applicant is a Canadian citizen/ permanent resident
- Applicant is available to travel to New York for July 17th to 19th
- Applicant is between 18 – 25 years of age (for applicants to the youth delegate positions only)

The selection committees developed the following criteria that they used to assess applications:

Experience

- Experience at international meetings
- Experience at reporting or communicating at/ after international meetings
- Experience with each of the SDGs being reviewed at the 2017 HLPF
- Experience working with a civil-society organization (Programs, Communications, Government Relations, Membership Engagement...)
- Experience with/ indication of interest in youth engagement and participation (for applicants to the youth delegate positions only)

Willingness and Capacity to Follow-Up and Report on Participation

- Willingness and availability to report back (as expressed in applicant statements of interest)
- Potential impact of the applicant's participation at the HLPF (how well-positioned is the person to report back to others and be heard)
- Capacity to collaborate with others
- Capacity to mentor others

APPENDIX III: Activities undertaken by various ICN-affiliated groups

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Council Executive Directors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposing an open application process ▪ Proposing equitable selection criteria ▪ Proposing a selection process based on the principle of self-selection ▪ Contacting persons suitable to serve on the two selection committees ▪ Serving on the CSO delegate selection committee – 3 Executive Directors ▪ Facilitating the ICN briefing of selected delegates – 1 Executive Director ▪ Coordinating with GAC – 1 Executive Director |
| Council Staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Producing and integrating prepared communications materials to launch the call ▪ Posting the call for applications on and through all Council communication channels ▪ Serving on the youth delegate selection committee – 1 staff-person |
| Selection Committees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewing and refining proposed selection criteria ▪ Collaborating on developing a process for reviewing applications ▪ Reading and grading applications ▪ Collaborating on making a decision on the committee recommendation to the ICN |
| ICN National Coordinator | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposing equitable selection criteria ▪ Producing and integrating prepared communications materials to launch the call ▪ Posting the call for applications on and through all Council communication channels ▪ Convening and supporting selection committees ▪ Communicating with persons interested in applying and actual applicants ▪ Receiving and sorting applications – Creating an email address to receive applications ▪ Preparing a Letter of Agreement to selected CSO and youth delegates ▪ Facilitating a briefing with CSO and youth delegates ▪ Supporting and creating mechanisms for delegate information sharing ▪ Issuing a Press Release ▪ Conducting a post-event satisfaction survey of delegates. ▪ Producing a synthesis report of delegate experiences and recommendations, for the sector, and for GAC. |
| ICN Volunteers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drafting a Press Release ▪ Maintaining ongoing coverage of the HLPF and communications with the delegates on ICN social media |

APPENDIX IV: Events and Meetings attended by delegates at the three-day ministerial meeting of the HLPF

Official HLPF 2017 Programme

Monday July 17 th 9:00 – 10:15 am	Opening of Ministerial Segment <i>Opening Remarks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of the Economic and Social Council ▪ H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the General Assembly ▪ Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations <i>Keynote Speech about the state of the world</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University 	All delegates
Monday July 17 th 10:15 – 11:00 am	Reporting by Ministerial Chairs on the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development <i>Presiding Officer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of the Economic and Social Council <i>Presentations by</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ H.E. Dr. Lahcen Daoudi, Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of General Affairs and Governance, Morocco ▪ H.E. Mr. Francisco Guzmán, Chief of Staff at the President of Mexico and Executive Secretary of the National Council for Sustainable Agenda ▪ Mr. Rosemarie Edillon, Undersecretary for Planning and Policy, National Economic and Development Authority, Philippines ▪ Mr. Gervais T. Meatchi, Director of Planning and Development, Togo ▪ Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith, Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development and Inter-Ministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Seas, France 	Deborah Glaser
Monday July 17 th 3:30 – 5:30 pm	Voluntary National Reviews 3 (Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Kenya, Netherlands)	Deborah Glaser Morrell Andrews
Monday July 17 th 10:15 - 6:00 pm	SPECIAL EVENT : <u>Partnership Exchange</u>	Adil Skalli Deborah Glaser
Tuesday July 18 th 10:30 – 12:00 pm	Voluntary National Reviews 6 (Guatemala, Italy, Zimbabwe)	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Tuesday July 18 th 3:30 – 5:00 pm	Voluntary National Reviews 8 (Portugal)	Morrell Andrews
Tuesday July 18 th 5:00 – 6:30 pm	Voluntary National Reviews 9 (Sweden)	Morrell Andrews
Wednesday July 19 th 9:00 – 11:00 am	Voluntary National Reviews 10 (Ethiopia, Honduras, India, Maldives)	Deborah Glaser Morrell Andrews
Wednesday July 19 th 5:30 – 6:30 pm	Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration and the draft report of the HLPF	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Wednesday July 19 th 3:30 – 5:30 pm	General Debate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Country statements on Ministerial declaration of the HLPF 	Deborah Glaser

Side Events

<p>Monday July 17th 1:15 – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>G20 Outcomes under Germany’s Presidency: Collective Actions towards an Effective Implementation of the 2030 Agenda</p> <p><i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) ▪ German Federal Ministry for the Environment ▪ Nature Conservation Building ▪ Nuclear Safety (BMUB) <p><i>Delegate Interventions - ADVOCACY</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Morrell made an intervention on the importance of youth inclusion, given that the official Y20 delegates of Canada and Germany were present at the side-events and yet not active participants in the panel discussion. Morrell further observed that more needs to be done to recognize and account for youth as vital actors in the policy development, implementation, and success of the 2030 Agenda. This was well received and seconded from the panelists. 	<p>Deborah Glaser Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews</p>
<p>Monday July 17th 6:30 – 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Open, Inclusive, Participatory and Transparent: How can voluntary national reviews support the pledge to “leave no one behind” in implementing the 2030 Agenda?</p> <p><i>Organizers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sightsavers ▪ Together 2030 ▪ Leonard Cheshire Disability ▪ Save Matabeleland ▪ Centro de Pensamiento Estratégico Internacional (Cepei) ▪ Justice, Development and Peace Commission (JDPC Ijebu-Ode) ▪ Philippine Social Enterprise Network ▪ World Vision ▪ Leading Women of Africa ▪ CAFOD ▪ Newcastle University and Poverty Reduction Forum Trust (PRFT) 	<p>Deborah Glaser</p>
<p>Tuesday July 18th 1:15 – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Accelerating Sustainable Development- Regional assistance for translating the SDGs into national action</p> <p><i>Organizers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) ▪ ECLAC (United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean) ▪ ECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) ▪ ECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa) ▪ ESCWA (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia) 	<p>Deborah Glaser</p>
<p>Tuesday July 18th 1:15 – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Getting governments organized to deliver on the SDG</p> <p><i>Organizers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government of Sweden ▪ OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) ▪ Mexico ▪ African Peer Review Mechanism <i>Notable</i> <p><i>Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The role of strong and resilient institutions and partnerships in achieving the SDGs ▪ The role of youth in policymaking ▪ Inter-Department Committees on the SDGs that report directly to member states’ Prime Ministers 	<p>Adil Skalli</p>

<p>Tuesday July 18th 3:00 – 5:00 pm</p>	<p>ENGAGING EVERYONE : Leaving No One Behind in SDG Communications: A Mutual Learning Session at the 2017 High Level Political Forum <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Celina Caesar-Chavannes, M.P. of Whitby, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development ▪ Director of the Swedish International Development Agency ▪ Director of CIVICUS International ▪ Director of MyWorld2030 <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessible branding and communications relating to the SDGs 	<p>Adil Skalli Deborah Glaser Marilyn Verghis</p>
<p>Tuesday July 18th 6:15 – 7:30 pm</p>	<p>The Global Climate Action Agenda, a solution provider to implement the SDGs <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ France, Italy and Luxembourg <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Best practices and perspectives on what countries and non-state actors are doing to achieve climate goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. 	<p>Deborah Glaser Morrell Andrews</p>
<p>Tuesday July 18th 6:15 – 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Civil Society as a Driver for Change towards Sustainable Societies – Models Empowering Civil Society <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European Economic and Social Committee ▪ EU Delegation to the UN 	<p>Adil Skalli</p>
<p>Wednesday July 19th 8:15 – 9:30 am</p>	<p>Independent Group of Scientists Responsible for the Global Sustainable Development Report: Progress to Date on the GSDR <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN – DESA) <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update on progress to date and on plans envisioned for the 2019 edition of the quadrennial Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) by the 15 scientists appointed by the UN Secretary-General. 	<p>Deborah Glaser</p>
<p>Wednesday July 19th 9:30 – 11:30 am</p>	<p>ICT-Integrated Innovative Education for Global Citizenship to Eliminate Poverty <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IVECA International Virtual Schooling ▪ Permanent Mission of Tunisia ▪ Permanent Mission of Kenya ▪ UN DPI/ NGO Executive Committee ▪ Legion of Good Will – USA ▪ Young Global Leadership Foundation 	<p>Adil Skalli</p>
<p>Wednesday July 19th 1:15 – 2:30 pm</p>	<p>Youth and the SDGs: From Local Roots to Global Reality <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth mobilization around the SDGs ▪ Presentation of “Guiding Principles for Supporting Young People as Critical Agents of Change in the 2030 Agenda” 	<p>Adil Skalli Marilyn Verghis</p>

Canadian Delegation – Official Events

Monday July 17 th	<p>Meeting at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN</p> <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Celina Caesar-Chavannes, M.P. of Whitby, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development ▪ Mr. Adam Vaughn, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development (Housing and Urban Affairs) ▪ Mr. Michael Grant, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations ▪ Mr. William Amos, M.P. of Pontiac ▪ Julia Sanchez, Executive Director of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation ▪ Corporate and Civil Society leaders ▪ This meeting was also open to all Canadians participating at the 2017 HLPF <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current practices of monitoring implementation of SDGs ▪ Recommendations for SDG implementation and reporting 	All delegates
Tuesday July 18 th	<p>Morning Briefing with Global Affairs Canada</p> <p>Meeting with Mr. William Amos, M.P. of Pontiac</p> <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Laird Hindle, Deputy Director, Development Policy Planning, Global Affairs Canada ▪ Ms. Kimberly-Lin Joslin, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Affairs Canada ▪ Mr. William Amos, M.P. of Pontiac <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to ministerial delegations, and how to most effectively participate on them ▪ Strategies and avenues for advocacy on the continued involvement of CSO and youth delegates at international meetings. 	All delegates
Tuesday July 18 th	<p>Meeting with Ms. Celina Caesar-Chavannes, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development</p> <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Kim Joslin, GAC ▪ Mr. Laird Hindle, GAC ▪ Mr. William Amos, M.P. of Pontiac <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensuring diverse intersectional perspectives are incorporated in all aspects of the delegate recruitment process. 	All delegates

Canadian Delegation – Unofficial Events

Monday July 17 th	<p>Meeting of Canadian CSO and Youth Delegates</p> <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan for engagement with other members of the official Canadian delegation 	All delegates
Tuesday July 18 th	<p>Canadian Delegates Dinner</p> <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Lara Pocock, Policy Advisor, Office of the Minister of International Development and Minister for La Francophonie ▪ Ms. Lidia Peci, Senior Policy Analyst, Status of Women Canada 	Deborah Glaser Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews

Civil Society Meetings – Youth

Monday July 17 th	<p>Meeting of Youth Delegates at 2017 HLPF <i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practices on advocating for youth inclusion at high-level UN meetings 	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Monday July 17 th	<p>World Youth Skills Day “Skills for the Future of Work” <i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, President of the General Assembly Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, Envoy on Youth for the Secretary General of the United Nations United Nations Permanent Representatives of Portugal and Sri Lanka <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing the urgent need for youth to have access to skills for the future of work, in response to the growing trend toward automation and technical innovation. 	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Wednesday July 19 th	<p>Meeting of Youth Delegates with the President of the Economic and Social Council <i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of the Economic and Social Council <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth delegates urged the Office of the President of ECOSOC to advocate for inclusion of youth official delegates vis a vis the member states. 	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Wednesday July 19 th	<p>Meeting of Youth Delegates with the Special Advisor to the President of the General Assembly <i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Dessima Williams, Ambassador of Granada to the United Nations, and Special Advisor to the President of the General Assembly <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth delegates urged the Office of the President of ECOSOC to advocate for inclusion of youth official delegates vis a vis the member states Role of the Office of the President of the General Assembly in pushing forward initiatives related to SDG implementation. 	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
Thursday July 20 th	<p>Meeting of Youth Delegates with Youth Envoy to the Secretary General <i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, Envoy on Youth for the Secretary General of the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successes and challenges in creating and preserving space for youth voices in the UN <p><i>Delegate Interventions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morrell made an intervention on the importance of urging countries, particularly those of the Global South, to include youth delegates in all un processes. 	Marilyn Verghis Morrell Andrews
	<p>Meeting of Youth Delegates with the Honduran and Italian Delegations <i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth delegates urged the official delegations of these countries to include youth delegates in the VNR as part of their country delegations. Youth delegates shared best practices related to the selection and engagement processes. 	Morrell Andrews
	<p>Meeting with official German Youth Delegates India <i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best practices on strengthening each country’s Youth Delegate programs 	Morrell Andrews
	<p>Meeting with Youth Advocates from Argentina and India <i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global South youth approaches to SDG implementations; challenges and successes 	Morrell Andrews

Civil Society Meetings – CSO Representatives

Ongoing	<p>Meeting of Together 2030 <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Naiara Costa, Together 2030 Secretariat <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic Planning for official meeting interventions around climate change and civil society participation ▪ Development of Together 2030 Open Letter on the HLPF 2017 <p><i>Notable Outcomes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consensus to develop a report on civil society reflections on the 2017 HLPF process 	Deborah Glaser
Ongoing	<p>NGO Major Groups Meeting <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism <p><i>Notable Attendees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lotta Tähtinen Chief of Outreach and Communications Branch, DESA ▪ Isabela Cunha, Stakeholder Engagement Programme, DESA <p><i>Subject</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daily meeting discussing successes and challenges in creating and preserving space for CSO voice at HLPF ▪ Coordinating strategies around advocacy efforts and interventions 	Deborah Glaser
Monday July 17 th	<p>16 + Forum <i>Organizer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) 	Adil Skalli

APPENDIX V: Delegate Satisfaction Survey Results

Global Issues and Effective, Sustainable Development

Most or all delegates found that their interest and level of awareness of global issues, as well as level of awareness and capacity to undertake effective, sustainable development has increased, with some delegates indicating a great increase.

- 3 delegates indicated an increase in their interest in global issues.
 - One delegate indicated that their interest in the inclusion of new and diverse voices in addressing global issues has increased
 - One delegate indicated that their interest in how the SDGs are being viewed as a global issue has increase
 - One delegate indicated that their participation at the HLPF inspired them to work harder and better at global issues that impact everyone.
- All delegates indicated an increase in their awareness of global issues. Two delegates indicated that it increased greatly. Delegates found that they learned more about the practicality of addressing global issues, as well as gaining specific in-depth knowledge on certain subjects.
- Three delegates indicated an increase in their level of awareness of effective, sustainable development, particularly through exposure to the initiatives of other countries, as well as from fellow CSO actors.
- Two delegates indicated an increase in their capacity to undertake effective, sustainable development, particularly since they are now equipped with new ideas and methodologies to apply in their own organization, and local community.

Canada's Role and Relationship with the Government of Canada

- All delegates indicated an increase in their understanding of Canada's current and potential role, as well as challenges, in implementing the SDGs. Three of the four delegates indicated that it has greatly increased. One of the delegates indicated that "this was the best part of the engagement, the insight into this specific topic."
- One delegate indicated an increase in their level of awareness of Global Affairs Canada's network of resources and information. The other three delegates indicated that they were already quite aware of this network.
- All delegates indicated an increase in their capacity to collaborate with Global Affairs Canada and other Government of Canada representatives and departments.

International Meetings

- Two delegates indicated an increase in their level of understanding of international meeting processes and dialogues.
- Three delegates indicated an increase in their capacity to appreciate the distinctions and demands of different scales of jurisdiction between local, national and international issues and fora used to address them.
- All delegates indicated an increase in their skills in participating at international meetings, processes and dialogues. One of the delegates indicated that this was "the first time [they've] felt welcome to advocate for youth and minority/marginalized youth inclusion so openly."
- All delegates indicated an increase in their skills in serving as effective social agents at international meetings, processes and dialogues.

Public Engagement, Collaboration and Peer Learning

- Three delegates indicated an increase in their comfort level in communicating with peers and sector colleagues on the SDGs.
- Three delegates indicated an increase in their skills in effectively communicating and engaging the Canadian public about global issues, and particularly the SDGs.
- Two delegates indicated an increase in their skills in effectively communicating and engaging the Canadian public about international events, processes and dialogues.
- All delegates indicated an increase in their capacity to work with multiple stakeholders on key global issues.

- All delegates indicated an increase in their capacity to collaborate with other representatives of the sector on key global issues.
- Three delegates indicated an increase in their comfort level in supporting and mentoring future delegates in their participation in official delegations to international meetings.

General Reflections on the HLPF

All delegates found that the HLPF was a very effective in-person networking, as well as peer learning opportunity. Most delegates found that it was an effective opportunity to access and share development sector information and analysis. Only half of the delegates found this to be an effective capacity-building opportunity.