Informal meeting of the plenary to hear a briefing by the Secretary-General on the report "Our Common Agenda" (13 Feb'23)

ABOUT: An informal plenary of the General Assembly was convened on 13 February 2023 to hear a briefing by the SG on <u>Our Common Agenda</u> Report. The SG's briefing was followed by interventions from Groups of States and MS, and the session ended with closing remarks by the SG.

HEADLINES

The SG's Briefing focused on giving a brief insight into the 11 Policy Briefs (PBs) due to be released this year with suggestions and inputs to inform the preparations and discussions on the SOTF. The SG and the President of the General Assembly (PGA) attempted to reassure Member States that the SDG Summit will be the priority in 2023, including by reiterating that all PBs would have dedicated sections to discuss their impact on the implementation of the SDGs.

Common Themes (have not been repeated below) – MS thanked the SG for his OCA Briefing and welcomed the release of the 11 Policy Briefs, along with the <u>High-Level Advisory Board</u> (HLAB) report. One common theme mentioned by many MS with varying levels of emphasis was to prioritize the SDG Summit and other high-level events happening in 2023, including the Financing for Development Forum, Climate Summit and LDC5 Conference. Many delegations shared the view that the SOTF Ministerial must define the scope, elements and processes of the SOTF (as per GA Resolution <u>76/307</u>) and that the SOTF process and tracks should be MS-led. There was broad agreement on identifying synergies and avoiding duplication between the OCA processes, SOTF and the SDG Summit, and for the SOTF to build on the outcomes of the SDG Summit. MS called for the SOTF to be inclusive and pay particular attention to gender equality, human rights, intergenerational dialogue, and the role of technology. There seems to be consensus (and lack of opposition) on the track dealing with reform of the IFIs to turbocharge the SDGs and solve the debt crisis facing many Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).

Highlights:

Secretary- General (Opening Remarks)	 I call on the G20 countries to agree on a \$500 billion per year SDG stimulus package for Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) before the SDG Summit Discussions are underway with the Indian presidency of the G20 to organize the proposed Biennial Summit between the members of the G20, ECOSOC, leaders of IFIs, and the SG
Brazil	We are surprised to receive information that the New Agenda for Peace will not include topics related to the UN Security Council (UNSC) Reform
Pakistan	4 The G77 and China group have submitted detailed comments on the OCA report and we hope that these have been taken into account when drafting the policy briefs
Republic of Korea	 We will increase our Digital-related Official Development Assistance (ODA) and will establish a data collaboration center in partnership with the SGs Envoy on Technology Korea will also increase its ODA commitment to green tech
Russian Federation	4 We need to avoid duplication in the SOTF processes and do not support proposals requiring amendment of the UN Charter
Sri Lanka	We put forward the idea of organizing an SDG Review Summit every 2 years in the run-up to 2030
Secretary- General (Closing Remarks)	 While we may not reach the same level of depth on all tracks, it is important to proceed on all tracks because of the interlinkages and not exclude any tracks from the deliberations The policy briefs to be released by the UN Secretariat will not have any proposal that would require a Charter Amendment. The proposals will be major but will be within the current Charter.

RESOURCES

- 1. <u>Recording of the Meeting</u>
- 2. Opening Remarks by the SG
- 3. Draft Roadmap for the SOTF
- 4. Bridgetown Agenda
- 5. Global Digital Compact
- 6. Policy Brief on Future Generations
- 7. Policy Brief on Emergency Platform

STATEMENTS

- 8. President of the General Assembly
- 9. SG English, French and Multilingual
- 10. European Union
- 11. Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- 12. Kazakhstan
- 13. <u>Sri Lanka</u>