LETTER: IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

8 February 2016

Dear Commissioner Mimica,

Four months after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the UN General Assembly, plans to implement the Agenda in different countries and regions around the world are taking shape. In July, the world will gather again at the High Level Political Forum to review progress, generate political impetus and launch partnerships and actions to advance shared goals. In the run-up to this High-Level Political Forum, the EU should continue playing a front-runner role, inspiring others by showing how it is able to match the ambition of the 2030 Agenda with clear EU implementation plans, which reflect the integrated, interlinked and comprehensive nature of the Agenda, in order to ensure well-being for all within planetary boundaries.

For this reason, CONCORD, the European NGO confederation for Relief and Development, representing 2,600 NGOs, would like to share with you its latest position paper ‘Components for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the EU and Member States’. CONCORD believes that for implementation plans to be successful - both at EU and at national level – they should at least include 9 components. Firstly, political leadership is needed to push the agenda forward. An overarching strategy should be adopted to implement the integrated 2030 Agenda at home and abroad, developed through a participatory process and on the basis of an in-depth gap analysis. Adequate financial resources should be allocated. In terms of governance, it is important to ensure both horizontal and vertical integration and clearly identify roles and responsibilities. Subsequently, legislation and policies will have to be revised or developed. A clear Communication Strategy must ensure that the people are fully aware of the aforementioned decisions. Furthermore, participation of all people must be ensured in the planning, design and implementation processes. Finally, robust, independent monitoring, accountability and review mechanisms, from local to regional level, are necessary.

The upcoming revision of the European Consensus on Development provides for an excellent opportunity to align the EU’s development cooperation policy more closely with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals, targets and principles, such as universality and integratedness, to ensure no one will be left behind.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss our ideas further with you and we remain at your disposal to provide any additional information needed.

Yours sincerely,

By Seamus Jeffreson
CONCORD Director
CONCORD is the European confederation of Relief and Development NGOs, with members in 28 European member states, 20 international networks and 3 associate members that together represent over 2,600 NGOs.

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