

**Statement by His Excellency Ambassador José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho,  
Undersecretary General for the Environment, Energy and Science and Technology of  
the Brazilian Minister of External Relations, at the Launch of the Roadmap for  
Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies**

**21 September 2017**

Ladies and gentleman,

It's an honor and a privilege to have so many ministries and high authorities from different countries and regions of the world, whom we are here to listen and talk to.

Since our last high-level consultation meeting in July, a lot of progress has been done in coming up with an ambitious roadmap for peaceful, just and inclusive societies. I wish to thank all of the contributions from Pathfinders who joined us.

In the best spirit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Pathfinders include countries, international organizations, different stakeholders and academia.

In a matter of four days, we will be celebrating the second anniversary of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. This historic document represents a shared vision about our common future and an action plan for a global development strategy.

But however encouraging this celebration might be, it reminds us that we have only 13 years to achieve the 17 Development Goals in an integrated manner. It's now time to move from vision to action.

The roadmap that is being launched today is not intended to prioritize SDG16 in detriment to other Goals, but on the contrary, to insert it in the integrated context in which it was firstly conceived.

This is why we chose to come out with a Roadmap for SDG16 *plus* (SDG16+), as it connects several related targets from other SDGs, never losing sight of the balance

among all the Goals and the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Let us be very clear. The roadmap is not intended to reinvent SDG16. Its purpose, on the contrary, is to accelerate implementation. It provides tools – powerful ones, I should recognize – aimed at fostering mutual learning and at exchanging experiences all geared to enhanced action.

Brazil has already shared, as other countries, case studies in the Roadmap. We have worked on transparency and birth registration.

The Pathfinders is an inclusive, informal, and dynamic group. As we join efforts towards achieving peaceful, just and inclusive societies, we expect that more countries, more international organizations and other stakeholders to join this road provided in the map before you all.

As I mentioned, time is running out for us to act. Let's us not bask in the results of the adoption of Agenda 2030. Every country and society has a contribution to make, in the spirit of the universality of the 2030 Agenda.

I recall that in 2019 the High-level Political Forum will be reviewing SDG16 under the theme “empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”. I expect that by 2019 all the Pathfinders will be in a position to identify progress towards peaceful, just and inclusive societies. I hope sincerely that this Roadmap will be instrumental to this progress.

We are very much committed to learn and to share experiences. We have also committed not to leave anyone behind. But also, we need to ensure that we have everyone behind. Let us be all onboard to move forward.

Thank you.