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Thank you to Brazil, Sierra Leone, Switzerland for this invitation.

The SDG's present a unique opportunity to leave no-one behind. We must make the most of this opportunity, to reach our goals by 2030. This will require quick and concerted action.

The Roadmap gives us tools to move forward in this process. For instance, on access to justice. 4 billion people still lack basic access to justice. It remains a universal challenge that takes many forms. Lack of access to justice creates patterns of exclusion that undermine the peace that SDG 16 seeks to offer.

For these reasons, we believe the work of the Justice Task Force, proposed in the Roadmap, could be a great step forward in the implementation of Goal 16 and related targets. The Netherlands will seek to play an active role in the Justice Task Force.

In The Netherlands we are used to going to court for our legal problems, but that is not always the solution to all justice problems.

In access to justice it is important to put the citizen at the center. We need more data to understand the 'justice journeys' of ordinary citizens. For example, through surveys carried out by HiiL we found that in a country like Ukraine only 5% of persons said they trust courts to resolve their legal problems. Or in Afghanistan, 87% number of women suffer from domestic or sexual violence in their lifetime. This gives rise to concrete problems, that we should seek to resolve.

Different countries have innovative approaches to resolve access to justice problems. In countries like Sierra Leone and Somalia, mobile courts operate to extend the reach of the law. In many countries, informal justice systems play a role in mediating grievances, including in diverse contexts such as Uganda, Afghanistan, and Ukraine.

Even in countries recovering from large-scale conflict and seeking to rebuild peaceful and inclusive societies through transitional justice, innovation is thriving. The Colombians have effectively created a Special Jurisdiction for Peace, parallel to the ordinary justice system, to deal with crimes committed during the conflict. Another law is giving access to justice through reparations for victims of the conflict. Similar innovation is taking place in the form of a Special Court in the Central African Republic.

But innovation can also be on a much smaller or more humble scale. We need to empower the end-users of legal services to take matters into their own hands. In the rule of law sector we can be too top down, maybe because we are dealing with rules, judges and lawyers. In the

Netherlands, a web-based Guide to Justice provides citizens with tools to affordably handle their legal issues, such as divorce, themselves.

Technology is key. In Uganda, the Barefoot lawyers give legal advice to small businesses via SMS. We need to scale up such entrepreneurial initiatives, and seek partnerships with the private sector.

We can all learn from each other, on what are the most useful experiences. Recently, we have been exchanging ideas with Rwanda on how to promote Alternative Dispute Resolution in a bilateral Justice Panel.

We should also consider the cost of access to justice. In many countries, legal services suffer from chronic underspending due to very low allocations from national budgets. Donor funding to the justice sector has, historically, been comparatively low compared to other sectors. The Task Force can help us to think of creative ways of funding access to justice.

We have a strategic window of opportunity, before the High Level Political Forum, to put flesh on the bones of SDG 16. Justice is too important to be left to lawyers, it needs the support of us all.