Freedom of Religion or Belief and the Sustainable Development Goals – Leaving No One Behind Statement

Starting from this Global Week to #Act4SDGs, we, the undersigned, hear the call to action to realize the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030;

Acknowledging that we all have a responsibility to ‘communicate, advocate and activate’ in our communities and countries to meet the SDGs’ pledge to ‘Leave No One Behind’;

Recognizing that to leave no one behind, religious or belief communities’ experiences of inequality and needs must be integrated into SDG planning, policy and action at a country level;

Also Recognizing that our responses will determine how fast blind spots in SDG pursuits are overcome and the challenges shaping people’s and the planet’s future are resolved;

We commit to seek and listen to peoples’ experiences of inequality because of their religion or belief, to better understand their needs, and thereafter to advocate and work collaboratively in our countries to ensure that no one is left behind.

We take this action in solidarity with Agenda 2030, future sustainable development goals, and human rights.

ABOUT THE STATEMENT:

Launched at the first High-Level Dialogue "Applying a FoRB lens to achieving the SDGs" on Thursday 23rd September 2021, this statement brings together parliamentarians, faith leaders and civil society to commit to approaching the SDGs through the lens of the right to FoRB in their context.

The High-Level Dialogue series on FoRB and the SDGs has been organized by the Freedom of Religion or Belief Leadership Network (FoRBLN), International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief (IPPFoRB), African Parliamentarians Association for Human Rights (AfriPAHR), Religions for Peace (RfP) and the UN Faith for Rights Initiative.

The statement will be updated regularly to show the names and titles of the signatories below and will be shared with relevant UN authorities and with the media in February 2022 at the end of the Dialogue series.

The below signatories support this statement in their personal capacity and not as representatives of their government, political party, organization or any other body.
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