

**Bangladesh Statement at the 4th HRC Intersessional Meeting for Dialogue and Cooperation on Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

***(Investing in sustainable recovery, advancing gender equality and strengthening partnerships – Towards a renewed social contract anchored in human rights)***

**(18 January 2022, 10:00 hrs.)**

Mr. Chair,

We thank the distinguished speakers and panelists for their insightful presentations.

Mr. Chair,

Bangladesh has been steadfast in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda since its adoption. We have adopted a ‘whole-of-society’ approach to implement SDGs, including SDG5 on gender equality and women empowerment. It is now among the top countries in terms of progress in women’s political empowerment. Like in many other developing countries, the ongoing pandemic has threatened to reverse our hard-earned progress. It has badly hit the vulnerable sections of society, including women and girls. In our recovery efforts, therefore, the government will continue to pay close attention to this section of society.

Mr. Chair,

Implementation of SDG5 is incumbent upon strengthened global partnership. It is particularly essential during this time of Pandemic. Unfortunately, even before the pandemic struck us, we were way behind our commitment to global partnership for sustainable development. Millions of people remained in the grip of crushing poverty, mainly in the global South and inequality was widening.

COVID-19 made it worse. As it is obvious, governments alone cannot overcome the challenges posed. They would need international cooperation and solidarity, not only for tackling the health-related challenges, but also for economic recovery and return to normalcy. Here, the SDG17 will be our lighthouse for strengthening global partnership. And we will emphasize that.

I thank you.

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