

**Written Submission to OHCHR by the LGBTI Stakeholder Group
23 January 2019**

The centrality of human rights and the underlying promise to protect, promote, and fulfill the human rights of all people in the 2030 Agenda is particularly important for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people.

The consensus nature of negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda Outcome Document meant that attempts to include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people as a specific group facing barriers to the right to development were unsuccessful. However, inclusive terms in line with the “leave no one behind” principle and which embrace people marginalized because of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) were inserted in commitments throughout SDG targets. These terms have offered new entry points for promoting and protecting the rights of LGBTI people who have traditionally been overlooked within development initiatives. LGBTI people face pervasive stigma, discrimination, criminalization, violence, and other forms of exclusion, all of which limit their enjoyment to the potential of the 2030 Agenda.

In order for both the development and human rights frameworks to work for LGBTI people, we recommend the following:

- **Consult and include LGBTI-led community-based organizations.** Multi-stakeholder engagement is an essential part of realizing the 2030 Agenda. LGBTI-led community-based groups are the best positioned to articulate the development and human rights challenges experienced by LGBTI people.
- **Disaggregate data based on SOGIESC.** Without disaggregated data based on SOGIESC, the needs of LGBTI people will continue to be rendered invisible. To the best extent possible, Member States should disaggregate data, so that development interventions can be targeted to the unique needs of LGBTI people. LGBTI-led organizations should be consulted in the data disaggregation and collection process.
- **Identify synergies with human rights mechanisms.** Tools such as the Danish Institute for Human Rights database can assist Member States and civil society to understand recommendations from treaty bodies, special procedures, the UPR, and other human rights mechanisms based by SDG. Reporting on SDGs and recommendations from human rights mechanisms should mutually reinforce each other to ensure stronger accountability.
- **Internal platforms for tracking implementation of human rights and the SDGs at country level should be replicated.** Chile, Paraguay, Thailand and other countries are developing internal processes and platforms to more efficiently track implementation of SDG and human rights. These efforts must be LGBTI-inclusive and available to civil society. The Human Rights Council should celebrate and encourage replication at the country level.

- **Create enabling, strategic partnerships to ensure achievement of the SDGs.**
Collaboration and partnerships across governments, UN agencies, the private sector, and civil society is important to raise the issue of LGBTI inclusion in all dimensions of development.

The LGBTI Stakeholder Group is composed of global, regional, and national civil society organizations and activists concerned about the inclusion of LGBTI people and SOGIESC issues in the 2030 Agenda.