

With thanks to all presenters, I address my question to Finland.

My name is Oyeibisi Oluseyi I am giving this statement as follow-up to the peer review process between Finland and Nigeria during the preparation of Finland's 2025 VNR.

We invite further details about Finland's measures to firstly, carry global responsibility to minimise the negative consequences of national policies outside of Finland's borders; and secondly, to protect civic space nationally and internationally.

Finland's material footprints per capita and material consumption rates are seven times higher than the global sustainability boundary. Yet Finland has not made commitments for new climate finance and ODA funding is being cut. Without carrying global responsibility, countries least responsible for crises such as climate change are left bearing the highest cost.

Why does Finland support the weakening of EU due diligence legislation which would protect fragile environments and the human rights of vulnerable people?

Our second question is: How will Finland ensure quality participation of civil society in policy reform processes at national and international levels, and respect its commitment that no one is left behind?

Finland recognises civil society as a cornerstone of democracy. Yet current policies and public funding cuts reduce the operational capacity of civil society and trade unions in Finland. The human rights of asylum seekers and migrant populations are being eroded. Such measures put national social cohesion and the Finnish welfare state at risk. This also challenges efforts to reduce inequality and maintain international solidarity.