

We commend Ministry of Planning efforts to prepare this important VNR, but we have serious concerns.

Civil society participation was tokenistic; consultations are not reflected. Also, it lacks a human rights-based approach and fails to cite state obligations to vulnerable groups, such as women, IDPs, persons with disabilities and minorities, and overlooks key issues of housing, environmental justice, and political participation. We also note significant data gaps, relying on outdated or fragmented data with few measurable indicators, particularly on poverty, climate-change impacts, food sovereignty, water crises, needed services, and geographic and social disparities between provinces, rural and urban, and genders. Internal displacement needs more attention.

We strongly object to treating the Personal Status Law amendment as progress, noting widespread feminist and civil society opposition.

We recommend to:

- Align development policy with human rights.
- Institutionalize partnership with civil society in preparing and evaluating national development reports.
- Ensure open-access data on improved SDG indicators, with independent community oversight.
- Establish a permanent tripartite mechanism (with government, civil society and private sector) to monitor and assess SDG implementation.