NGO Major Group Executive Summary for the 2026 High Level Political Forum

The NGO Major Group urges Member States to boldly implement deep, systemic transformation to achieve the 2030 agenda and ensure healthy, safe, flourishing lives for humans, animals and the planet.

Moving beyond GDP toward scientifically-grounded, ethically-informed, and compassion-centred systems is essential for social, economic and environmental resilience and translating global commitments into effective local action.

We present the following recommendations:

SDG 6

- Ensure universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene, prioritizing women and underserved, displaced, or conflict-affected communities.
- Recognise the role of working animal welfare in water access and security.
- Protect and restore water ecosystems.
- Strengthen water use efficiency and pollution management.
- Adopt equitable, participatory, non-exploitative watershed management.

SDG 7

- Scale transition to renewable, reliable, healthy, affordable energy for all.
- End fossil fuel expansion and redirect harmful subsidies.
- Ensure just energy transitions involving communities, workers and local authorities.
- Promote locally-led, decentralized approaches for underserved communities.
- Ensure energy expansion avoids harm to ecosystems and wildlife.
- Protect civilian energy infrastructure in conflict-affected areas.

SDG 9

- Build sustainable, inclusive, safety-in-design and care infrastructure.
- Strengthen local value chains and SMEs; address undue private sector influence.
- Accelerate responsible innovation, AI and technology transfer including TRIPS flexibilities.
- Strengthen science-policy interfaces, aligning innovation with sustainable development.
- Replace debt-based economic norms with regenerative economic policies.
- Foster industrial transitions to sustainable, high-welfare models respecting occupational safety and land-use rights.

SDG 11

- Create accessible, inclusive, safe, healthy, resilient, sustainable housing, cities and communities.
- Expand affordable housing, services, and transport.
- Strengthen emergency and disaster risk planning.
- Prioritise in-situ informal settlement upgrading and secure land tenure.
- Promote participatory planning and governance mechanisms for local development.
- Expand green spaces and humane animal management for urban biodiversity, public health and community resilience.

SDG 17

- Advance sustainable, socially responsible trade, agreements and debt solutions.
- Mobilize predictable, grant-based, concessional finance.
- Improve access to financing instruments.
- Increase transparency and accountability; prevent undue private sector influence.
- Expand public finance through international tax cooperation, wealth taxes and targeted industry levies.
- Protect civic space, journalistic freedom and safety; counter disinformation, including in conflicts.
- Institutionalize multi-stakeholder governance for SDG implementation, monitoring and accountability.

At the 2026 HLPF, we call for:

- Upholding international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians in all contexts.
- Protecting and ensuring meaningful civil society participation in SDG processes globally and nationally.
- Moving beyond siloed approaches to enable systemic resilience.
- Strengthening multilateralism through equitable institutional reform.
- Driving structural, systemic transformation to improve planetary well-being.