Madame/Mr President

Australia is a proud champion of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs represent the universally agreed roadmap for sustainable social, economic and environmental development, underpinned by full respect for international law and human rights.

We are now past the mid-point to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Our world is struggling with multiple and compounding crises. COVID-19, climate change, food insecurity and political instability all threaten the 2030 Agenda and realisation of the SDGs.

We have seen stagnation or regression in nearly a third of the targets.

Australia is committed to doing its part, in partnership with the region to realise a shared vision for a peaceful, stable and prosperous world

and a global system that can help meet present and future development needs.

Our international development policy underpins this commitment to a peaceful, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Our development policy listens and responds to priorities across the region to ensure that our development program is fit-for-purpose to support our neighbours and address shared challenges.

Eradicating poverty and advancing sustainable development must be authentic and responsive to the needs and aspirations of partner countries.

We continue to recognise that climate change is the single greatest threat to the livelihoods and wellbeing of people in the Pacific.

Beyond measuring and adapting to vulnerability, we need to mitigate the causes through urgent climate action.
Australia is committed to international climate leadership and supporting partners to meet their own climate goals.

Australia is on track to meet its commitment to provide $2 billion in climate finance between 2020 and 2025.

Countries in our region are particularly vulnerable, including to the growing impacts of climate change.

Australia is pleased that the MVI was adopted by the General Assembly late last year.

We look forward to working with you all to take this important work forward through the intergovernmental process.

Rising global food insecurity will be a long-term challenge, with climate change exerting increasing pressure on already stressed food systems.

Australia is responding to growing global food insecurity through the continuation of emergency food assistance, providing support to 42 countries to build capacity for food security.

Gender equality remains at the centre of our international engagement as a vital national interest creating opportunities for people to thrive, making our region stronger, more secure and more inclusive.

We are holding ourselves accountable by setting targets to ensure our investments meet high standards.

Addressing the root causes of conflict and building the foundations for peaceful, just, inclusive societies with strong institutions is critical for preventing and resolving conflict.

Australia has provided 23.8 million vulnerable women, men, girls and boys with emergency assistance in conflict and crisis situations.

We are in a time of multiple crises. We are being tested on our commitment.

We stand with our neighbours and UN partners to navigate these challenges to work in partnership to achieve the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions across the Asia-Pacific.

Thank you