



Statement

by

**H.E. Dr. Nawaf Salam
Permanent Representative of Lebanon
to the United Nations**

**at the
General Assembly**

**High-level dialogue on
“Building Sustainable Peace for all:
Synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
and Sustaining Peace”**

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Check Against Delivery

*Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations
866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 531, New York, NY 10017*

Mr. President,

Allow me at the outset to express our appreciation for the efforts you've undertaken to organize our successful meeting today on a crucial matter for tens of millions of people around the world, living in conflict, conflict-affected and post-conflict countries, where the interlinkages and synergies between sustainable development and sustaining peace are the most obvious, and are in fact part and parcel of their daily lives and interactions.

Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development recognized the importance of these interlinkages, and the interdependence between sustainable development and peace, in the Agenda's preamble, declaration (para. 35) and in SDG16. It further acknowledged that there can be no sustainable development without peace, and no peace without sustainable development.

Agenda 2030 also affirmed the indivisible and integrated nature of the 17 SDG's and their targets. In addition to the importance of the implementation of SDG 16 to the building of peaceful and inclusive societies through promoting the rule of law, ensuring equal access to justice and developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions, there must also be a recognition that the effective implementation of the other 16 SDG's is also vital for achieving sustainable development and sustainable peace for all.

Thus, the mitigation of the risk of new and recurring conflicts (what the SG referred to as "prevention" of conflict), would require concentrated efforts at all levels, aimed towards, eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities, empowering women and girls, respecting human rights, tackling unemployment, facilitating universal access to education and healthcare, and ensuring an equitable and universal distribution of the benefits reaped from the sustainable harnessing of natural resources, particularly at the country level.

In this regard, we emphasize the need to enhance coordination and coherence between the development, peacebuilding, and humanitarian activities of the United Nations entities and operations at the country level, in line with their respective mandates, and in accordance with national plans, needs and priorities.

Finally Mr. President,

It is worth noting in this context that in Lebanon, the Government and the UN System have signed last October a pioneering United Nations Strategic Framework (UNSF) for the period 2017-2020, which recognizes that the UN needs to follow a "Whole of Lebanon" approach that leverages and integrates the UN's diverse expertise, capacities and resources to support the Government of Lebanon to meet its priorities and manage security, political, governance and socio-economic challenges to stability, including the detrimental impact of the conflict in Syria and massive influx of displaced people. The approach also aims to support Lebanon on the path to longer-term sustainable development in accordance with the vision, principles and goals of Agenda 2030.

I thank you for your attention.