



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Side Event to the
High Level Political Forum 2019

Together for the Goals Religious Actors' Role on Sustaining Peace

July 16th, 2019

Church Center of the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza

09:00 am: Welcome and Reception – 09:30 am to 11:30 am: Panel Discussion

The 2030 Agenda affirms that in order to achieve sustainable development, peace, justice and strong institutions, the work on peace and conflict, democracy, good governance, and the rule of law are essential. With the reference to SDG 17 to work across sectors to support and achieve the ambitious goals, all relevant actors are to be included in that process. To this end, the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) work-stream Sustaining Peace/SDG 16 commissioned its knowledge partner the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith & Local Communities (JLI) to conduct a study on the role religious and traditional actors play 1) through stages of conflict, and 2) in fostering social cohesion, and peaceful and inclusive societies. This study focuses on the Lake Chad region and South Asia. It is a first step in understanding how religious and traditional actors are contributing to achieving SDG16.

The information and greater understanding that this study creates contribute towards enhancing the needed cross-sector engagement with religious and traditional actors towards achieving the SDGs in general and SDG 16 in particular. In this light, this side event brings together experts and practitioners from Member States, Multilateral Organizations, Academia, and Civil Society to *highlight* and *illustrate* the study's findings, their importance, and possible ways forward.

There are three related objectives for this side event:

1. To highlight and illustrate the role of religious and traditional actors in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the importance of working across sectors with religious and traditional actors, with a particular focus on the achievement of SDG 16.
2. To launch a new "scoping study" on the role of religious and traditional actors related to peace and conflict, the Sustaining Peace agenda, and SDG 16.
3. To discuss evidence-based recommendations to guide engagement and partnerships between local faith actors and international actors.

Co-Sponsors for the PaRD work-stream Sustaining Peace:



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Draft Agenda:

Moderator:

PaRD Co-Chair Prof. Mohammed Abu-Nimer, KAICIID

Welcome by:

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati, Secretary General of Global Interfaith WASH Alliance/
Member of PaRD Steering Group

Keynote Address:

H. Em. Cardinal Charles Maung Bo, Archbishop of Yangon

Religious actors in Myanmar: The importance of religious actors in fragile and conflictual contexts on the implementation of SDG 16

Panelists:

Dr. Olivia J. Wilkinson, Director of Research at the Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities

Presentation of PaRD Scoping Study report "The implications of working with/not working with Religious actors for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 16"

Prof. Syafiq A. Mughni, Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Indonesia for Interfaith and Inter-Civilization Dialogue and Cooperation

How government efforts for an enabling environment for religious actors and religion and development (religion, peace and conflict) contributes to sustainable development

Imam Omar Layama Kobine, President of the Central African Islamic Community

Interreligious dialogue as a tool for peacebuilding, preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution

Bishop Sunday Onuoha tbc., Co-Chair of the Executive Committee, Interfaith Dialogue Forum for Peace, Nigeria

How sustained interfaith collaboration among religious leaders fosters peace, cooperation and community resilience

Z Nang Raw, Director of Policy and Strategy of the Nyein Foundation (Shalom)

Amplifying voices of young women and men across religious groups for peace and social cohesion - for the SDG 16 and the 2030 Agenda

Closing remarks:

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

We are looking forward to your attendance & participation!