



Note of concern regarding the dismantling of the Sustainable Development Goals governance body in Brazil

The Brazilian Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda (GTSC Agenda 2030) vehemently repudiates and is deeply concerned with the dismantling, done by the government of President Bolsonaro, of the governance system adopted to help implement the SDGs in the country. The extinction of the National Commission for the SDGs (CNODS), the democratic governance body in the Federal level, reveals absolute disregard to the word agreed upon at the UN, in 2015, together with 192 other countries, to implement the 2030 Agenda and its targets.

The National Commission was created by the Decree 8892, on 27 October 2016, as part of the Secretary of Government. It was a consultative body, with parity between government and civil society, that had the mandate to articulate with the subnational governments and civil society to implement and stimulate the SDGs in Brazil. On 11 April 2019, the Commission was formally closed by the Decree 9759, in effect from 28 June onwards.

The major revoke Decree, known as 'revogaço' or the 'revokest', not only extinguished the National Commission (CNODS), but it is estimated that about 500 collegiate, committees, commissions, fora, tables, teams or any other group with similar designation within the Federal Government bodies have been eliminated, saving only those that were created by law. Even so, these have been slowly but surely underfunded and have also been affected by the Decree 9759.

In fact, the Decree 9759 revoked the Decree 8243/2014, that created the National Policy of Social Participation (PNPS, in Portuguese), meaning an attempt against citizen's participation in the formulation and implementation of public policies in the country. There was an expectation that CNODS would be reinstated in the third quarter of 2019, but so far it has not been realized, what reveals even more the lack of commitment of the current government to poverty and hunger eradication, to the preservation of the environment, and to the work done against inequalities and injustices.

The 2030 Agenda is a script, or a guide, for governments, society at large, companies, academia, and all people, and is absolutely aligned to the Brazilian Federal Constitution. The end of CNODS shows that the government does not consider the 2015 accords a State commitment that should be above parties or ideologies.

Another evidence of disregard of Bolsonaro's government to sustainable development was his giving up to present the Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the HLPF 2019. VNRs are reports that shows the path taken toward reaching the SDGs in the country. Brazil committed to present the VNR at the HLPF in 2019, but, even though the data was already available by the economic and statistics institutes, the government decided not to confirm their support to the SDGs and present them.

Since the one and only Brazilian VNR was presented at the HLPF 2017, the only way to follow-up the SDGs implementation in the country is through the Spotlight Report¹, produced by the GTSC Agenda 2030.

The Spotlight Report 2019 edition shows that Brazil is getting even further away from sustainable development. The current affairs include fierce violations and disregard for social, environmental, and

¹ <https://gtagenda2030.org.br/relatorio-luz/relatorio-luz-2019/>.



economic rights, with setbacks in all areas, particularly affecting the lives of African-Brazilian, 'quilombola', and Indigenous women.

Furthermore, there are: 13.5 million people living in extreme poverty; record-breaking approval of new pesticides; growth in sexually transmitted illnesses, including HIV and AIDS; increase in airborne infectious diseases such as malaria and yellow fever; growth in Tuberculosis and Measles infection; growth in cases of violence against women; thirty-four million people without access to clean water; more than one hundred million people without access to basic sanitation; almost 600 thousand households without electric energy; more than 12.5 million people unemployed; growth of inequality; growth of hate crimes (against LGBTI, women, girls) and environmental crimes; dismantling of public education; lack of transparency and radical shrinking spaces for dialogue.

Herein, we make public our concern with the refusal of Bolsonaro's government to implementing, in Brazil, a development model that is geared toward prosperity, care with the planet, guided by peace and actualized through multi sector and inclusive partnerships that result in policies, programs, and services with access to all for the betterment of life and well-being.

Brazil, November 8th, 2019.

Brazilian Civil Society Working Group for the 2030 Agenda (GTSC Agenda 2030)