

A CALL TO ACTION TO SAVE SDG10

Reversing the Explosion in Inequality Which Endangers Us All

A High-Level Roundtable (invitation only)

Sponsored by UNAIDS, Development Finance International, Oxfam International and Pathfinders CIC

Date: Tuesday 18th July 2023

Time: 13:15 – 14:45

Location: UN Delegates Dining Room PDR 1-3, UN Secretariat Building

In his 2023 SDG Progress Report, the UN Secretary-General finds that SDG10 – reducing inequality – is one of the worst performing SDGs. Action has never been more urgent on this goal, because during the COVID-19 pandemic and global inflation crisis, inequality of income, wealth and health outcomes has risen sharply. This is true within countries, and between them because poorer countries lacked finances to support incomes of the poor or confront the COVID-19 and AIDS pandemics. Without decisive action on inequality, most of the other SDGs – on poverty, health and pandemics, social and environmental progress – will be fatally compromised.

This call to action, spearheaded by UNAIDS, Oxfam, Development Finance International and CIC-Pathfinders, aims to dramatically accelerate efforts to reduce inequality, by 1) using more accurate indicators to measure inequality under SDG10, across all levels of income and wealth, within and among countries; 2) setting ambitious targets for these indicators, at optimal levels for accelerating progress on the other SDGs; 3) a revolution in inequality data, with the international community increasing investments so all countries track progress annually; and 4) national and global anti-inequality action plans supported by international cooperation. By taking these initial steps, at this key moment of reviewing the SDGs, we can start reversing the rise in inequality, make rapid progress on health, education and social protection, and revive prospects of meeting the SDGs by 2030.

This high-level roundtable to pursue discussions on the SDG10 initiative at the High-Level Political Forum, is to be attended by United Nations member states, as well as invited representatives of UN agencies and non-government stakeholders. The roundtable aims to bring together Member States and other stakeholders committed to reducing inequality to:

- Discuss the key proposals of the Call to Action on SDG10
- Develop a joint strategy to advocate revision of SDG10 indicators before the SDG Summit; and
- Identify key moments for future collective action to highlight the need for a revised SDG10, and for greater investment in monitoring progress and in anti-inequality action plans.

Agenda of the Roundtable

- 13:15 – 13:30 Welcome remarks by UNAIDS
Introductory Remarks by Winnie Byanyima, USG and ED of UNAIDS;
and Amitabh Behar, ED of Oxfam International
- 13:30-13:37 Presentation of the background study and concrete asks of the Initiative (Matthew Martin, Executive Director, Development Finance International)
- 13:37-14:40 Tour de Table chaired by Sarah Cliffe, Director of Pathfinders CIC
Interventions by high-level participants (3-5 minutes each) with their views on inequality and SDG10, and reactions to the Call to Action proposals
- 14:40-14:45 Closing summary and next steps (Sarah Cliffe, Pathfinders CIC)