



**Statement of Cyprus at the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
on Cluster V of the informal thematic consultations on “Our Common Agenda”
New York, 10 March 2022**

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Mr. President,

My remarks are over and above those made by the European Union.

Cyprus welcomes the idea of a High Level Advisory Board to identify global public goods and ways to improve global governance where that is most needed. We see the Board as a tool that will produce the kind of collective thinking that will help the membership make ambitious decisions at the Summit of the Future, along the lines of previous examples, such as the contribution of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, to the World Summit of 2005.

We welcome the SG’s vision to work towards a UN 2.0 around increased effectiveness, less bureaucracy and results-oriented action. We agree that the organization needs to adapt its capabilities to 21st century challenges but we stress that many of the challenges of the 20th century are still with us and we should not relegate our focus on them.

We see UN 2.0 as a project of strengthening the organization to better tackle all the core challenges facing humanity and not as reorienting the organization itself. The Summit of the Future will be a good opportunity for the most existential challenges to converge with our commitment to tackle them, combined with an elaboration on how we intend to do that.

It is within the context of aligning our capabilities with our objectives that we approach the functioning of the UN’s principal organs. We consider that there is room for improvement in each principal organ and that the separate reform processes that each one is undergoing should deliver more than it currently is, based purely on the criterion of improving their effectiveness, the quality of their outcomes, and the implementation of these outcomes to the tangible benefit of people on the ground.

We agree that we need to make better use of the UN’s power as a convener but we need to be cognizant of its effect on our ability to act. The UN must stay focused primarily on its own ability to deliver and to gather targeted actors who can contribute to this end. Priority should be given to actors with unique expertise and knowledge of local circumstances. The choice of such actors and the manner of consulting with them, especially at the subnational level, should be done prudently and in full respect of the Charter and international law.

Before closing, a brief word on the UN’s financial situation. We share the concern regarding the prospect of the UN facing continued liquidity deficits that may jeopardize its ability to deliver on its mandates and we support the call of the Secretary-General to address the structural multifaceted root causes of the cash liquidity’s ‘downward spiral’. Going beyond paying assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions, we must seek sustainable solutions for improving the budgetary framework and procedures, taking into account that a financially healthy and resilient organization is the shared and collective responsibility of Member States and the Secretariat.