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New Bundestag and next German Government must place focus on 2030 Agenda

The German Government has played a major role internationally over the last four years in the agreement of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs, and of the Paris Climate Agreement. It has ushered in implementation of these accords within Germany with the 2016 German Sustainable Development Strategy and the Climate Action Plan 2050. All political parties that have already had parliamentary representation, either in the Bundestag or the Bundesrat, have committed themselves to implementing the goals of these agreements in domestic and foreign policy at German and EU level. The SDGs address key issues relating to the future of Germany and to its role in the world. Achieving the SDGs is an imperative of economic reason, social justice and environmental responsibility.

We call upon the new Bundestag and the next German Government to take the bold step of placing the SDGs at the heart of their domestic and external policy.

Between 2017 and 2021, it is necessary to set the right course on key issues of sustainable development and climate change mitigation. The German **Sustainable Development Strategy** is due to be amended for the first time in 2018 and the next progress report is due out in 2020. The **UN** will hold a **summit** in 2019 to review implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The German Government's **Climate Action Plan** is due to be updated by 2020 to include new measures on the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement. Efforts should be made to push ahead to a greater extent with **European implementation** of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris agreement, not least under Germany's Presidency of the Council of the European Union (second half of 2020).

The new coalition agreement should make reference to the 2030 Agenda from the preamble onwards. It is necessary in the individual chapters to agree additional efforts, especially with regard to the SDGs for which the German Sustainable Development Strategy itself or other indicators have identified significant shortcomings for Germany. This concerns, for example, **child and old-age poverty** (SDG 1), the transition to **sustainable agriculture** (SDG 2), the achievement of **gender equality** (SDG 5) and **distributive justice** (SDG 10), **sustainable cities with affordable accommodation and healthy mobility** (SDG 11), ensuring **sustainable consumption and production patterns** (SDG 12), **climate change mitigation** (SDG 13), **marine conservation** (SDG 14) and **protection of terrestrial ecosystems** (SDG 15).



We propose the following fundamental commitments for the coalition agreement:

We will put the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of its 17 SDGs at the heart of our domestic and external policy.

We will ambitiously further develop the German Sustainable Development Strategy, gear it towards global responsibility and furnish it with more effective implementation instruments. We will provide significantly more human and financial resources to this end. Like the budget officers, the ministerial coordinators for sustainable development will be granted a right of objection.

All advisory boards and advisory councils appointed by the German Government will be required in their task areas to gear activities to the 2030 Agenda. We will be more active in incorporating international research partnerships into the transformation processes and provide considerably more substantial financial support for these partnerships. We will further strengthen the Science Platform Sustainability 2030.

We will strongly urge the European Union to significantly step up its efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda. We will double Germany's voluntary contributions to the United Nations funds and programmes to support the Agenda's implementation at international level.

We will reconvene the Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development and make it a permanent fixture in the standing orders of the Bundestag. We will submit to the Bundestag a proposal for enshrining sustainable development and generational justice in Germany's Basic Law.