

Bengaluru Declaration- Accelerating SDG actions (November 4th 2023)

Preamble

Bearing in mind, in Stockholm, in 1972, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,(1992) where in , both evinced a strongly human-centric approach with emphasis on the prevention of environmental harm.

Recalling the Summit on Sustainable Development, in 2000, established the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with 8 Goals to be achieved by 2015 and in 2015, Agenda 2030 and its 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets. The SDGs are global goals, built upon the erstwhile Millennium Development Goals in 2015,Which envisages “*a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination*”.

Noting the global Progress on SDGs as on 2023 wherein-

Extreme poverty has declined considerably, the under-5 mortality rate fell by 49% between 2000 and 2017, immunizations have saved millions of lives, and the vast majority of the world's population have gained access to electricity. Recalling 186 parties have ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change, and almost all have communicated their first nationally determined contributions. About 150 countries have developed national policies to respond to the challenges of rapid urbanization.

Recognizing the challenges, we face wherein-

The ever-increasing gap between the rich and the poor and between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability.

The global and local environment continues to suffer. Loss of biodiversity continues, fish stocks continue to be depleted, desertification claims more and more fertile land, the adverse effects of climate change are already evident, natural disasters are more frequent and more devastating, and developing countries more vulnerable, and air, water and marine pollution continue to rob millions of a decent life.

Emphasizing the Negative trends have been registered when it comes to providing clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), ensuring decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and supporting responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and *noting* there is insufficient data for Goal 11,12,13.

Recalling, at The New Delhi Leader's Declaration (NDLD) at the G-20 Conference September 2023 “With world sliding back on SDGs,G-20 Action Plan on Accelerating Progress on SDGs commits the G-20 countries to undertake strong steps towards realizing 2030 Agenda...

Convinced of the need to urgently accelerate the SDG actions, at National Level the 4 Regional Climate Conclaves, organised by CSD, the experts, citizen groups and youth, industry, government, Universities and Research Institutions, were engaged in articulating the current posturing , besides, actions for future ,by Nation-States, concerning sustainable development and climate change.

The following Bengaluru Declaration is the collective wisdom emerging out of the learnings of these together with other efforts of CSD. This is an optimistic expression of Hope, Commitment to the Mission, Preparedness to the take up the task in the right earnest and a clear determination to stop not till the goal is reached, by India.

The Sustainable Development Leadership Summit organized by the Centre for Sustainable Development on November 4,2023 in Bengaluru, after due deliberations, resolved to issue the Bengaluru Declaration on Sustainable Development to further accelerate the progress on SDGs, taking into account, in particular, the challenges faced at the state and local levels.

Adopt this Declaration

This Declaration proclaims Out of the 17 goals enumerated in the UN SDGs, we consider the following goals need focused attention, as these have shown less progress than desired and need to be accelerated, to meet the 2030 Agenda.

Goal 2.Sustainable agriculture-food security

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 8.Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

*Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**

This Declaration urges that in addressing SDGs, Role of govt, society and markets in acceleration is critical at all levels working together in a spirit of justice and equity.

Resolution

We, the Generation Current including the youth, the Stewards of Environment, Determined to save and secure ourselves and the Generation Subsequent, from the impending hazards of Unsustainable Development and extreme impacts of Climate Change and embark on a Model of Development that is Environmentally Sustainable and ensuring Climate Justice for all, hereby Solemnly Resolve and adopt a Lifestyle for Environment("LiFE") that promotes- Consumption of organic produce, products and goods that are regionally and culturally compatible - increasing inclusion of little millets ("Siridhanya") in our food culture and dietary practices,

- Avail services that are carbon neutral, energy conserving and efficient.*
- Availing mass public transport option.*
- Reuse, recycling, reduction and elimination of waste.*
- Reclaiming, restoration and rejuvenation of Local Commons like, Lakes and Water bodies; ecosystems; guarding, protecting nurturing and improving life-supporting and -sustaining, flora and fauna.*
- Rejection and elimination of unsafe, harmful and hazardous technologies, substances and practices that are life-threatening, life-debilitating and seriously impacting the integrity of natural resources and their sustainable use and relentlessly endeavour to usher in a Just, Equitous and Inclusive Social order.*
- Resolve to join hands and contribute our bit in making India a global leader in sustainable development and Bengaluru the Sustainability capital.*