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Answer given by President von der Leyen
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.11.2024)

1. The EU and the Commission are committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹. For the 2019-2024 mandate, the Commission's six headline ambitions operationalised the transformations necessary to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For the upcoming mandate, the political guidelines of the President indicate a continued focus on sustainability, peace and prosperity for people and planet, and strong partnerships. The Commission is delivering on the SDGs in a whole of government approach, whereby SDGs lie at the core of EU policy, legislation and funding, including in the EU's external action. The Commission supports developing countries in achieving SDGs through financing instruments such as the NDICI-Global Europe² and the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD+). Amounts reallocated through the mid-term revision of the multiannual financial framework will also contribute to the SDGs.

2. The EU Voluntary Review on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda³ did not make any recommendations. It did nevertheless look ahead to 2030 on the basis of lessons learnt from the SDG implementation so far, to accelerate the delivery of the 2030 Agenda within the EU and in its international partnerships.

3. Together, the Commission and Member States are the world's largest providers of development assistance. China is the largest bilateral lender to developing countries. As the President of the Commission noted at the 24th EU-China Summit, the EU and China have a shared interest in peace and security, in an effective rules-based international order, and in finding solutions to global challenges. To address the huge financing gap to achieve the SDGs, the EU encourages all global actors, including China, to uphold international norms and standards in line with the United Nation's Charter.

¹ <https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/publications/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>

² NDICI: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R0947&qid=1694611521351>

³ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/sustainable-development-goals/voluntary-reviews-sdg-implementation_en#european-unions-voluntary-review