

Presentation of Belgium's 2nd Voluntary National Review

ESDN VNR Peer review
workshop – 05 June 2024

**SESSION 2/ VNR methodologies and
peer reviews**



METHODOLOGICAL GUIDELINES

Preparation of the VNR coordinated within the **Interministerial conference on sustainable development** (technical group with experts from the administrations)

Plan of approach discussed by the technical group and then approved by the Ministers of the different Governments (May-July 2022)

METHODOLOGICAL GUIDELINES

Guidelines inspired from the UNDESA Handbook 2022 :

- **Content:** balance between the various dimensions of sustainable development, its internal and external components, a fair and critical assessment of the achievements, attention to the universal, transformative and holistic nature of the 2030 Agenda, a presentation of the indicators for monitoring the SDGs and a presentation of the evolution and new ambitions since 2017
- **Structure:** a table of contents based on the guidelines proposed by the United Nations; a synthetic approach has been opted for, in which the VNR presents the essential elements of the contributions of the governments to the SDGs, and refers to an appendix that includes the detailed contribution of the various entities.
- **Process:** involve the various governmental agencies and organised civil society groups from the outset, to feed the report.

05.05.2022
LAUNCH

01



The ministers responsible for sustainable development in the Belgian governments set the coordination modalities, activate the technical group and send the application for the Voluntary National Review to the UN.

The technical group draws up a plan of approach (process, timetable, stakeholder involvement) and the template for contribution of the various governments and civil society groups.



02

05 > 07/2022
DRAWING UP A PLAN OF APPROACH

07.2022
APPROVAL OF THE PLAN OF APPROACH AND COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

03



The ministers approve the action plan and send requests for contributions from societal groups via the Federal Council for Sustainable Development.

The technical group compiles contributions by authorities, including local authorities. Discussion of contributions by societal groups at the SDG Forum (04.10.2023).



04

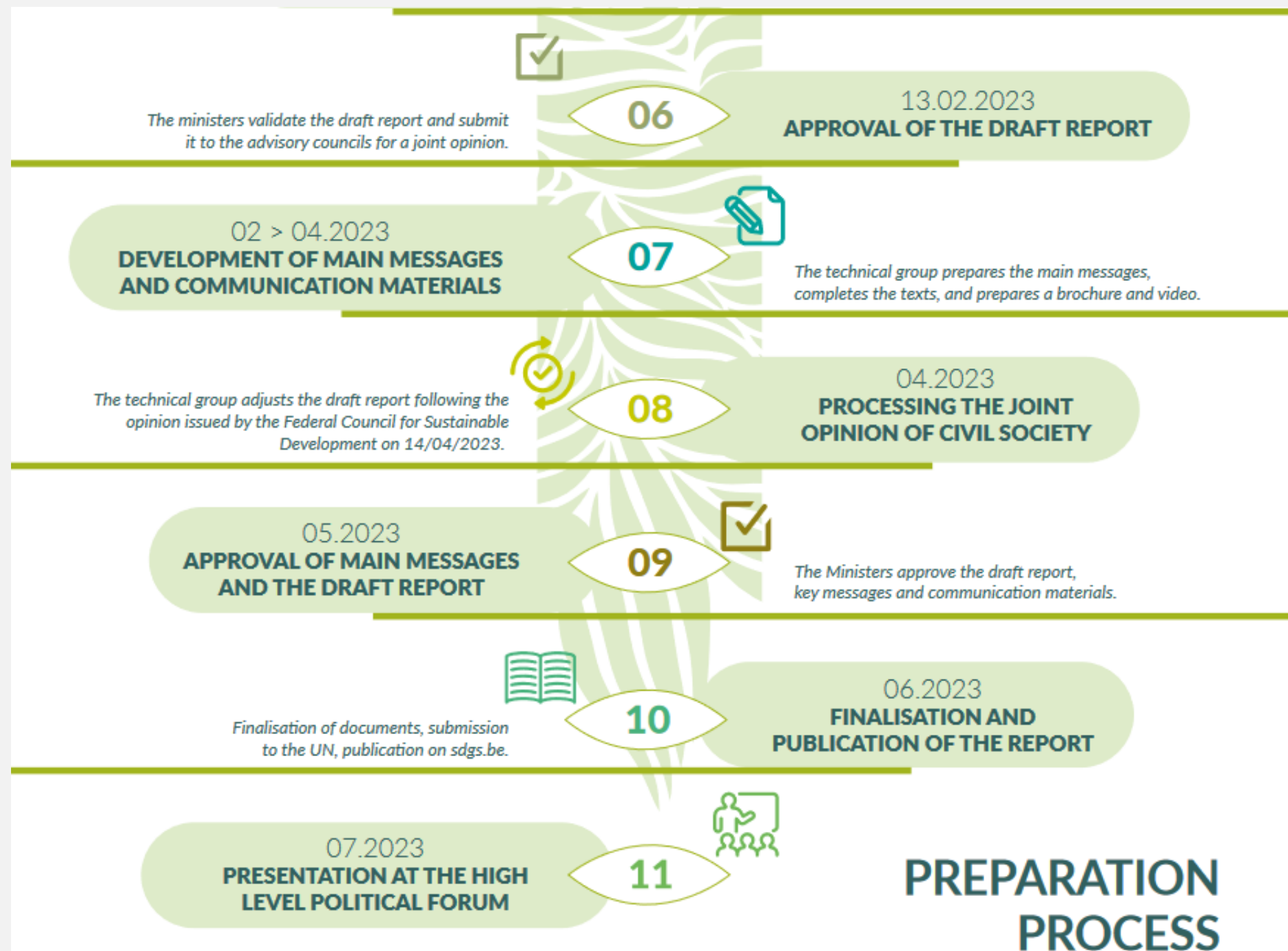
07 > 10/2022
CONTRIBUTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS AND SOCIETAL GROUPS

10.2022 > 01.2023
COMPILATION AND SYNTHESIS PHASE

05



The technical group compiles and summarises the contributions into a summary report.



PREPARATION PROCESS



INTERNAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Contribution of all federated and federal entities + local authorities

- **individual contributions** of federal entities, regions and communities (July-October 22) and then **compilation/synthesis** led by the federal level (federal institute for SD) (October 22- January 23)

! Balance between data specific to entities and synthetic approach not so easy to reach in the report

Full contributions published on the website sdgs.be

- contribution of local authorities and their umbrella organisations from the 3 regions: specific chapter in the report



**COMPARATIVE
APPROACH AND PEER
REVIEW**

In the design:

- comparison of different VNRs from EU countries to design the structure of the report

In the process of preparation/report:

- participation of Belgium in NU workshops // peer learning
- informal contacts with EU countries
- comparative approach in the presentation of the 82 indicators in annex, with regards to the EU

Ex-post peer review:

- first experience through this event today