

United Nations Academic Impact

1st Meeting of the UNAI Sustainable Development Goals Hubs

Athens 7th October 2024

Opening: **Prof. Dimitrios MAVRAKIS**
Director of KEPA, UNAI Hub SDG7

Dear and esteemed participants of the 1st Meeting of the UNAI SDG Hubs in Athens,

I cordially welcome you, in this effort to discuss and exchange views and proposals on how to contribute in the global efforts to increase the common efforts to implement the “2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development”.

Our current agenda is developed in two sessions that aim to encourage the constructive exchange of views, based on our experience in our fields of operation.

Under the chairmanship of **Ms Jayashri. WYATT** chief of the Education Outreach Section of the United Nations distinguished academics from ten academic institutions all over the planet and observers from Greece and abroad, we have been gathered with the aim to exchange views and make proposal, based on our experience.

The meeting today is divided into two sessions. The first focuses on Lessons learned and Best Practices. The second aspires to synthesize our experiences for tangible, applicable and extrovert proposals targeting the relief of poor and vulnerable people, in our societies.

Now and before I will invite the esteemed Vice Rector of our University to take the floor allow me to make a short presentation of our hosted academics from the various Hubs and countries.

Goal 1 titled: **End poverty in all its forms everywhere**, with seven explanatory objectives, is represented by **Prof. Jonas Richard ANTONY** from *Kristu Jajyanti College of INDIA*.

Goal 2 titled **End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**, with eight explanatory objectives, is represented by **Prof. Hettie SCONFELDT and Dr. Beulah PRETORIOUS** from the *University of Pretoria of SOUTH AFRICA*.

Goal 7 titled **Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**, with five explanatory objectives is represented by **Prof. Dimitrios MAVRAKIS, Dr. Popi KONIDARI and Ioannis Ntroukas** from *Energy Policy and Development Center of NKUA of GREECE*

Goal 9 titled **Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive industrialization and foster innovation**, with eight explanatory objectives is represented by **Prof. Osamu TAKAHASHI and Dr. Mami KATSUMI** from the *Nagaoka University of Technology of JAPAN*

Goal 10 titled **Reduce inequality within and among countries**, with ten explanatory objectives is represented by **Lecturer Moses Karuki NDERITU** from *Mount Kenya University of KENYA*

Goal 11 titled **Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**, with ten explanatory objectives, is represented by **Prof. Cristiane Maria SCHNACK** from the *UNISINOS Jesuit University of BRAZIL*

GOAL 12 titled **Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**, with eleven explanatory objectives, is represented by *Prof. Gabriela MONTERO LIZANO from the University for Peace of COSTA RICA*

Goal 13 titled **Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**, with five explanatory objectives, is represented by *Prof. Franco BARTOLACCI from the National University of Rosario of ARGENTINA*

Goal 16 titled **Peace, justice and Strong Institutions**, with twelve explanatory objectives, is represented by *Dr. Mark CHARLTON and Prof. Leisa NICOLS from the De Montfort University of the UNITED KINGDOM.*

Now, and before I will pass the floor to our Vice -Rector allow me a very last notice.

It will facilitate the discussion if we can receive written in advance any questions or opinions and proposals addressed to our introducers without excluding any intervention during the final round of discussion.

With this final comment I kindly invite the Vice-Rector of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens to take the floor for the official opening of our meeting.

Mr. Vice-Rector the floor is yours.