

STATEMENT

BY

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MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

TO THE

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

**THEME: "MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS FOR A BETTER
TOMORROW"**

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We do not need rhetorical statements and unmet pledges. The lackluster progress for the Sustainable Development Goals, at just seventeen percent, seen globally including in my own country demands that we all must do better.

Despite notable strides in recent years in areas such as health, education, infrastructure, agriculture, governance, justice, peace and security, Papua New Guinea recognizes that we can do better to deliver on the SDGs and we are working hard on it.

Improving national leadership, broad-based and inclusive people-centered development approach, with better national coordination and coherence, strong governance, supported by effective implementation of our national development priorities roadmap known as the Medium Term Development Plan Four, is a step in the right direction in improving our peoples lives and livelihoods.

Investing in our women and girls wellbeing and empowering our youth, through sustained investment in quality education, lifelong skills and capacity building, providing economic opportunities and instilling environmental stewardship is a strong and sure foundation for a better future. This is why my Government is now prioritizing investment in our women and girls and youth in our development agenda.

Mr. President,

In a world suffocating from the heavy burden of debt that is preventing countries from meeting their peoples development needs for a better life, the overwhelming and loud outcry worldwide for the long overdue reform of the outdated and unfriendly international financial system cannot be delayed any further.

We need a global financial architecture that puts peoples lives and livelihoods first over profit for a win-off few.

Before I conclude, Mr. President, the Pact for the Futures emphasis