**Feedback on the Draft of the Declaration on Future Generations – 12/06/2024**

Thank you,
Dear Co-facilitators and colleagues.

My name is Lena Winzer and I represent the Foundation for the Rights of Future Generations, and I am grateful for the chance to address you today. I would like to express our appreciation for the changes made to the Declaration on future generations and to state what a truly remarkable opportunity this is. We particularly welcome paragraph 36, which outlines the role of the United Nations in relation to future generations.

However, we would like to recommend a few amendments in terms of the specific action steps the UN can take. Firstly, we suggest that the UN should be committed to realizing each of the four points mentioned in paragraph 36 of the declaration, rather than presenting them as optional by using the word "or".

I am aware that it was stated before that the specifics of the UN action points for paragraph 36 are still subject to discussion with member states so I would just like to stress briefly that we appreciate the commitment to an inclusive annual forum or high-level meeting on future generations and we would like to ensure that the forum or meetings will in fact be held annually, and that the at this commitment be reaffirmed every two years, instead of the suggested five-year time frame.

Most importantly, we propose that the Declaration should not only include the submission of the question of future generations as an agenda item of the General Assembly, but also a proposal to observe an official UN Day for Future Generations. The UN recognises various days to commemorate human rights, climate, or youth (e.g., World Children's Day – 20th November, Human Rights Day – 10th December, International Women's Day – 8th March, World Water Day – 22th March, etc.). This would not only provide an opportunity for the annual forum to convene and for representatives, special envoys and stakeholders to operate, but also further demonstrate the UN's commitment to acknowledging the protection and attention future generations deserve both nationally and internationally.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.