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D.O. No. F-20019/NITI-Business Sector-SDGs/2020-SDGs

Dated: 3rd September, 2020

Dear Rijit,

It is a matter of satisfaction that India presented its Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the implementation of Sustainable development Goals to the UN High-Level Political Forum 2020 and shared the progress achieved so far in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda. India's 2<sup>nd</sup> VNR in 2020 is a well-rounded saga of action being taken by the government in partnership with diverse societal actors.

In this regard, I would like to place on record NITI Aayog's appreciation of the efforts made by the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) in facilitating consultations with various business sector organizations on the sector's contributions on relevant SDGs and preparing the draft for the chapter on "Business Integration in the Implementation of SDGs" for the VNR 2020. The chapter has very usefully highlighted the progress made towards institutionalization of business responsibility frameworks, development of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, and the commitment of Businesses to partner with the government across various sectors in the crucial Decade of Action for the attainment of the SDGs.

It is heartening that CRB is nicely shaping up as a think-tank to support businesses in the inculcation of sustainability into their core practices while working with multiple other stakeholders, such as, academia, NGOs, bilateral/multilateral agencies and experts. This is an important undertaking in which CRB's expertise in thematic areas of circular economy, supply chain sustainability, voluntary sustainability standards and certification, sustainability in SMEs, etc. can help generate new strengths and excellence.

With best wishes,

(Sanyukta Samaddar)

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