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learned, monitoring and evaluation of implementation. Through channels that ensure you are heard.

On specifics, I urge you to make use of the OHCHR Guidelines for *States on the Effective Implementation of the Right to Participate in Public Affairs*. And while you are here, please pick up a copy of the UNDEF book, *Democracy As If People Matter*.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We saw this kind of participation and inclusion at first hand in the development of the Sustainable Development Goals, where the proc14.J 0 Tw 9.744 0 Td (,)Tj 0.004 Tg(P)

So there is no time to lose.

Again, that means bringing decision-making closer to the people. Updating our model of democracy through participation and inclusion. Listening carefully to the concerns of communities that feel threatened by change or left behind. Taking young people *very* seriously. Exploring new avenues beyond elections, such as citizen assemblies.

To explore these questions today, we have a range of experts and activists I'm excited to hear how they see the road ahead.

But first, let's get inspired by a video message from UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

Thank you.