

27 May 2019

Dear Consular Officer,

This letter confirms that **Dosse Sossouga, Executive Director of the UN SDGs NGO Major Group for Africa: Amis des Étrangers au Togo: ADET**, has been invited to attend the High Level Political Forum at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as a member of the NGO Major Group Delegation from Tuesday, 9 July to Thursday, 18 July. The HLPF is the main United Nations platform on sustainable development and is crucial in the review of the Sustainable Development Goals. The NGO Major Group facilitates the engagement of NGOs in the HLPF and brings diversity of knowledge and voices to the UN. We have chosen **Dosse Sossouga** as a member of the NGO Major Group delegation due to their unique expertise in sustainable development, global governance, UN advocacy and human rights.

The participation of civil society is vital to ensuring its success and we ask that you grant a visa to **Dosse Sossouga** so they can participate in this critical meeting. In compliance with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success, on 26 June 1947, and approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 31 October 1947, the United States government is required to admit NGO representatives to attend HLPF 2019.

According to Article IV, section 11, "the United States shall not impose any impediments to transit to or from the [United Nations] headquarters district of... representatives of non-governmental organizations recognized by the United Nations for the purpose of consultation or other persons invited to the headquarters district by the United Nations or by such specialized agency on official district. The appropriate American authorities shall afford any necessary protection to such persons while in transit to or from the headquarters district." In section 12, the United States has committed to protecting the rights named in section 11 "irrespective of the relations existing between the Governments of the persons referred to in that section and the Government of the United States." Section 13 mandates that "laws and regulations in force in the United States regarding the entry of aliens shall not be applied in such manner as to interfere with the privileges referred to in Section 11. When visas are required for persons referred to in that section, they shall be granted without charge and as promptly as possible."

If you require further confirmation of the registration of **Dosse Sossouga** please contact one of the Global Organising Partners for the NGO Major Group listed below.

Sincerely,



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