To the Parties and Organizations of the Social Democratic Forum in the Arab World (ASDF)

Associate Regional Party Network of the Progressive Alliance

14 March 2024

Joint Conference of the Social Democratic Forum in the Arab World and the Progressive Alliance on 26-27 April 2024 in Amman, Jordan

**Understanding the Crisis and Charting Pathways to Peace** 

Dear comrades, dear friends,

More than a decade since the Arab Spring, the Middle East and North Africa continue to face the challenges of conflict and tyranny. What was once the promise of a wave of democratization has instead been met with further authoritarian oppression and the rise of extremist violence. The ongoing conflicts in Syria and the lingering forces of ISIS/Daesh continue to deprive the peoples of the region peace and security. Meanwhile, the Hamas attacks on Israel and the ongoing war in Gaza and Palestine has created a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented brutality and death and risks spilling over to neighboring countries.

It is in this period of seeming hopelessness and political gridlock that progressives must offer needed political solutions. It is clear that the old regimes of the region and their politics of authoritarianism has nothing to offer the region's peoples. However, a new vision for democracy, peace, and security has yet to be articulated and fully materialized.

The Progressive Alliance and the Social Democratic Forum in the Arab World bring together the social democratic and progressive forces to

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initialize the process by which we chart a progressive direction for the Arab world and the region's peoples. We also assess where our forces stand in relation to the political and social milieu of each country and the region as a whole, what role it must play and how to bring about a political solution for the multiple crises they face. Also, since the Middle East situation impacts strategically the global political environment, we look at the role of outside actors in terms of solidarity from the Global North and the Global South.

You will find attached the preliminary documents for this activity:

- 1. Provisional Program
- 2. <u>Technical Information</u>

To confirm, we ask you to **register on before 15 April 2024**. Please refer to the Technical Information the needed details for your registration.

We aspire to have a gender-balanced participation in all Progressive Alliance activities so we ask you to take this into account when registering your delegation. For any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at <u>contact@progressive-alliance.info</u>.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in Amman.

In solidarity,

Atarie Chris A. Cabreros

Marie Chris "Machris" Cabreros Coordinator of the Progressive Alliance