

Check against delivery!

STATEMENT

by

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**at the United Nations
Summit for the Adoption of the post-2015 Development Agenda**

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Distinguished Presidents,
Heads of States and Governments,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The new agenda is the most comprehensive development action plan so far. It is global and universal. It is visionary. It is concrete. It is people- and planet centered. It gives promise to leave no one behind and to build a life of dignity for each and every individual.

Why does Slovenia believe that this new agenda can make a difference?

First: since it provides a firm commitment to implement the unfinished business of Millennium Development Goals, so that every man, woman, boy and girl, no matter in which country is able to fulfil basic human needs - always and forever. This was our promise already fifteen years ago. We have already achieved a lot, but we need to make a greater effort to fully deliver on our promise.

Second: since the new agenda reaffirms our commitment to the respect, protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination on any ground. Only universality, indivisibility and inalienability of human rights can guarantee that no one is left behind. Gender equality, empowerment of women and protection of their rights is an important integral part of new agenda.

Third: since it recognizes a strong connection between peace, security and sustainable development and at the same time emphasizes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Excellences,

The new agenda also responds to other global challenges, such as migration. The global migration crisis, which we are currently facing not only in Europe, but also in other parts of the world, requires urgent action. First and foremost, we should address its root causes and prevent further loss of life.

My country together with other EU countries has intensified the activities in resolving the current migration crisis in Europe. The main principles of our action are based on humanity and solidarity, but also security.

We should pool our efforts in combating illegal migration and suppressing the trafficking of migrants and human beings. This cannot be the responsibility of any one country - it is a shared responsibility of the whole international community.

There is another pressing global challenge that needs our immediate attention – climate change. I sincerely hope that the successful adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be complemented by an ambitious, durable, universal and legally binding agreement later this year in Paris. It goes without saying that such agreement is essential for sustainable development. And the time is quickly running out.

Excellences,

The implementation will be a common journey. Everyone should participate. We will be successful only if we work together.

We have a strong implementation framework – it provides us with full spectrum of means to successfully implement new agenda. Official Development Assistance (ODA) will remain a key element of development funding. In line with our public finance capabilities, Slovenia will strive to increase the volume of ODA funds and improve the ODA quality. We will prepare a national plan for gradual increase of ODA to fulfill our commitment in the timeframe of the new agenda.

The approach of Slovenia in the implementation process will follow two tracks:

We will implement new agenda at the national level, including through preparation of a new Slovenia Development Strategy, which is already under way.

We will also contribute to the poverty eradication and sustainable development on the basis of updated legal and strategic documents on International Development Cooperation.

In the 10 years of my country's involvement in international development cooperation, we contributed to the economic, social and environmental progress of more than 80 developing countries.

Our goal for the future is clear – to further strengthen our international development cooperation and demonstrate that the efforts of small donor countries can also be an important contribution to the realization of global development objectives. I am confident that we will succeed.

Distinguished Excellences,

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an opportunity of a lifetime. We need to seize it. We need to embrace it. We need to realize it. We should not forget that we are doing this for our people, our future generations and our planet.

Thank you.