

Statement by

**Ambassador Boštjan Malovrh**

**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**Consultations on the Report of the**

**High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism**

New York, 27 April 2023

Thank you, Mr Chair,

Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to add a few remarks in its national capacity.

We highly value today’s session with the High Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism. You have presented a truly comprehensive set of recommendations touching upon the main for elements for a fairer, more inclusive and effective multilateralism. Slovenia is particularly proud of the role of our Former President of the Republic dr. Danilo Türk as the member of the Board. It was our pleasure to organize a recent discussion entitled "On Multilateralism Today" in Beijing with two members of the Board.

Slovenia has always been an advocate for effective multilateralism, underpinned by the UN Charter to promote and support the three pillars of peace and security, development and human rights. To make the global governance work, we need a transparent, responsive and accountable multilateral system, built on trust, respect and international law, in which the United Nations, its agencies, international financial institutions, regional organizations and others would work in synergy. Multilateral organizations should be able to anticipate new trends and developments and to adapt to a changing environment.

We believe the report of the High Level Board is well balanced and offers fresh ideas to accelerate member states' efforts towards sustainable change. Its 10 principles and 6 transformational shifts provide a good basis for further discussions not only towards the Summit of the Future and beyond, including the World Social Summit in 2025 but is also has an important link to the the SDG Summit later this year.

Allow me to present some preliminary reactions.

We fully subscribe with the Board’s plea for rebuilding trust as our guiding principle. We particularly value the strong link you made with the SDG’s considering the upcoming SDG Summit and the fact that the world is significantly lagging behind in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, which is one of the major concerns for the international community. We also believe it is important to horizontally address across all 6 shifts the gender equality and human rights dimensions. Inclusivity is key to strengthening multilateralism.

Allow me to move to another area of Slovenia's foreign policy priority, namely the connection between people and planet described in your 2nd transformative shift. We welcome the focus on climate change presenting a direct and existential danger that spares no one. Strengthening of information-sharing on climate risks and management within the UN system is an important step forward. A critical consequence of climate change is also water scarcity. The references in the report on water scarcity and pollution are highly relevant. We believe the improvement of global water governance is needed as the report suggests to address the triple planetary crisis and achieving the SDGs; this should include the establishment of a UN Water Envoy.

I would also briefly like to touch upon the 5th transformative shift on the challenges of the current international peace and security architecture; where we support the prominence given to the importance of the reform of the Security Council; as well as strengthening the cooperation between the UN and Regional Organisations.

I would also like to address a couple of questions to the distinguished panel. First touches upon the influence and role of non-state actors in multilateral cooperation as well as the inclusion of groups that have been traditionally left out or marginalized. How can we ensure better inclusion for a more effective multilateralism?

My second question relates to your assessment of the measurement of the effectiveness of multilateralism and how it can be done in a more unified way.

In conclusion, we hope that these recommendations will be used in the context of the Summit of the Future as a springboard towards creating more effective multilateralism, one that is based on full respect of the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all agreed international norms and standards.

I thank you.