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Statement by

**Ambassador Boštjan Malovrh**

**Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia**

**to the United Nations**

at the

**UN Security Council Open Debate on**

**Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace: Futureproofing Trust for Sustaining Peace**

New York, 3 May 2023

Thank you, Mr President,

Thank you, High Commissioner Türk, Youth Ambassador Chiwenya, and Mr. Olonisakin, for your valuable contributions to our debate today.

Slovenia aligns with the EU statement, and I wish to share some additional remarks in our national capacity.

Mr. President,

The focus of today’s debate on building trust to secure our future is important for my country, Slovenia. Trust is the cornerstone of effective multilateralism and ensuring global peace and security.

Building sustainable peace requires a holistic and inclusive approach beyond efforts to end conflicts. Successful peacebuilding demands our long-term commitment to **coordinated and collective efforts** toward building resilient societies, addressing root causes, and promoting good governance and sustainable development. When addressing the complexities of global challenges, the Security Council can benefit from working in synergy with other UN bodies and agencies. Linkages and cooperation between Peacebuilding Commission and the Security Council should be strengthened.

Trust and resilience necessitates regional, national and local ownership and strong and inclusive partnerships. Cooperation between the UN and regional organizations in maintaining peace and security is therefore critical. Slovenia, supports predictable and sustainable financing and the use of UN-assessed contributions for AU-led operations authorised by the UN Security Council and looks forward to the upcoming discussions on this issue.

It is essential to create an environment where **all segments of society** can work together and peacefully solve their differences. Building consensus and trust calls for inclusive engagement with all members of our societies, including women, youth marginalized groups and civil society organizations. Only when all voices are heard, all human rights are respected, and diversity is embraced can we address the root causes and find sustainable solutions that are the foundation for sustainable peace.

We, therefore, welcome the recent Security Council’s united response to the violations of women’s human rights and fundamental freedoms and the undermining of their full, equal, and meaningful participation by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

We need to do more to support the **crucial role of women** in peacebuilding and decision-making processes. Peace processes and post-conflict reconstruction with women’s full, equal, and meaningful participation lead to more durable peace and stability. Nationally, we have been steadily raising the bar on women’s political leadership throughout our history, which has undeniably contributed to Slovenia being the 7th most peaceful country in the world, according to the Global Peace Index 2022.

When empowered, **youth can be critical agents** of change and drivers of peace. Their participation can play an important role in the prevention of conflict and the promotion of social cohesion. We therefore warmly welcome today’s participation of the AU Youth Ambassador for Peace for Southern Africa, Ms. Cynthia Chigwenya.

Mr President,

The **international law** is the foundation of our trust and sustainable peace and security. It provides a stable and predictable international environment for states to engage and work together to seek collective and sustainable solutions to global challenges.

The existing international normative framework with the UN Charter at the center remains the bedrock of our global peace and security. Slovenia is committed to continue working with our partners in building and fostering a more secure and peaceful future for all.

Thank you.

