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Statement by

**Ambassador Boštjan Malovrh**

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**to the United Nations**

at the

**UN Security Council Open Debate on**

**Maintenance of International Peace and Security: New Orientation for reformed Multilateralism**

New York, 14 December 2022

Thank you, Mr. President,

Also, thank you, Secretary-General Guterres, and the President of the General Assembly, Kőrösi, for your briefings today.

As I thank you Mr. President for holding this timely discussion, I would like to share our three main observations on the topic at hand.

**First**, adept global governance must mirror the **interconnectedness of the world today**. The most recent crises, such as the Covid pandemic, the global food crisis, and climate change, are another stark reminder that today's complex challenges are not those of one State or one region but of the entire world.

To effectively tackle these challenges, we need to overcome the current fragmentation of our multilateral work, which remains entrenched in the traditional ‘silos’ approach. Only through working in synergy will we find comprehensive and sustainable collective solutions to the challenges of the future.

We are therefore pleased that today, for the first time, the President of the General Assembly has addressed the Security Council.

We should also use the work that the Secretary-General has already done in ‘Our Common Agenda’ report, which provides good orientation in our search for a reinvigorated and reformed multilateralism.

**Second**, the world today is not the same as it was 77 years ago. And there is a growing understanding among the member states that the multilateral architecture must remain **a living mechanism able to adapt to the new realities of our world**.

In the last two decades, member states have already recognized such opportunities. They have already taken steps to adapt parts of the United Nations system by establishing the Human Rights Council, the Peacebuilding Commission, and, most recently, the adoption of the landmark UN resolution on the veto initiative.

While there is a need to continue our efforts on the overall reform of the United Nations system, there is a clear urgency to reform the body which holds the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security.

Only a more representative Security Council, which reflects the realities and diversity of the contemporary international community, can effectively deliver on its mandate. It needs stronger and more permanent voices of the regions that have been overlooked and underrepresented. We are encouraged by the many speakers who highlighted the need for a reformed Council during this year's General Debate and hope we can build on this momentum.

But it is time to go beyond theoretical discussions and deliver concrete results. We need tangible progress. We are therefore calling for efficient and results-oriented Intergovernmental Negotiations.

**Third**, the failures and successes of multilateralism are reflective of our joint efforts. We, the member states, hold the key to its success.

Trust and constructive dialogue are essential elements of our efforts toward reformed multilateralism.

We have the power and the tools, but do we **possess a collective political** will to go the distance and deliver on our promises?

Mr. President,

As we continue to respond to a volatile world and concurrent crises, we all depend on a functional multilateral system with the UN at its core being by far our best bet.

Slovenia celebrated its 30th anniversary of joining the UN earlier this year and as a small state we will do our part in strengthening the cooperation among us and in improving the multilateral rules-based system. We will actively contribute our part towards a more peaceful, safer and greener world.

I thank you.

