Sustainable development possible only if global community works together, Slovenia tells UN

21 September 2017 — Effective international cooperation with the United Nations at its core is essential to address global challenges which have become even more complex and intertwined, the Prime Minister of Slovenia told world leaders today, urging unity among the international community.

Noting that the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (<u>SDGs</u>) and the <u>Paris Agreement</u> on Climate Change are the "true test," Prime Minister Miro Cerar stressed that now is not the time to go back on commitments.

"We need to turn them into real progress that will benefit people around the globe," he urged, addressing the general debate at the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly.

Noting that partnership and collaboration among the entire global community is vital not only for achieving sustainable development, but also for addressing the challenges associated with the scale of migration and refugee flows seen around the world.

In his address, the Prime Minister also underscored the importance of respect for human rights, including rights of children and women, rule of law, and gender equality and women's empowerment.

He also noted the reform efforts initiated by <u>Secretary-General</u> António Guterres, and expressed his country's support for the same.

The Prime Minister, further spoke of the need to combat terrorism in all its forms as well as violent extremism around the world, as well as advance the non-proliferation and disarmament agenda and urged for full implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

In that context, the Prime Minister strongly condemned the violations by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) of numerous Security Council resolutions as well as its own international commitments.

"They pose a serious threat to peace and security in the region and wider," he stressed.

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