



**Statement by H. E. Mr Robert Golob
Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia
at the Plenary Session of the Summit of the Future
New York, 22 September 2024**

Mr President, dear colleagues,

As we, the heads of state and government gather for the Summit of the Future, the world is facing a bleak future. And not by single strike but multiple ones: from spreading wars, out-of-control climate and the destructive force of water to the exhaustion of natural resources and increasing inequalities.

We should use this summit to as a minimum agree on determination to reverse the course towards mutually assured survival.

We have all come to realize, that we need to **rebuild trust and strengthen global cooperation and solidarity**. But, to be able to do that we need **peace and full respect** of all member states, big or small, for **international law**, starting with the UN Charter. We need to eliminate the sense of impunity for these violations. We need to stop the erosion of the international order with the United Nations at its center.

The ongoing war in Gaza and the suffering of the Palestinian people have to be stopped.

Aggression against Ukraine and its people must be stopped.

The same goes several other conflicts.

The United Nations were designed as a collective security architecture to prevent conflicts and guarantee security of all. No state should pursue its security in ways that harm the security of others. Prevention of armed conflicts, which was the reason d'être of the United Nations, must become our main priority. Sustaining peace is a vital condition for the world to have a decent future – such as it is outlined in the Pact for the Future.

Mr President,

For the Pact to be viable and applicable, truly aiming at leaving no one behind, and making us more resilient to future global shocks, **we need to:**

- step up our efforts towards the sustainable development goals of Agenda 2030;
- reform the international financial system;
- change the way we measure progress beyond GDP and measure the true value of human and natural capital;
- transition to more redistributive and regenerative economies;
- protect the global commons and deliver global public goods;
- respect and protect the human rights of all;
- and realise the human potential to the full by equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women and youth. The United Nations should set the example.

By doing so we will safeguard the needs and interests of future generations. The **Declaration on Future Generations** should be our guiding compass in these efforts.

Let me speak briefly about something I feel very strongly about – **the importance of water**. The most precious of natural resources, water is central to our shared future, a critical component of our environmental, social and economic well-being and an essential element of global peace and stability.

Its importance is demanding our collective commitment and action at all levels. We should acknowledge the transformative potential of **technology** such as earth observation, remote sensing, artificial intelligence, and supercomputing in solving water problems. These technologies are not just tools, they are catalysts for a new era

of water management, enabling us to anticipate, manage, and mitigate water-related risks with unprecedented precision and efficiency.

Artificial intelligence allows us to create predictive models that can forecast water scarcity, flood risks and the impacts of climate change on water resources. Supercomputing power amplifies these capabilities by processing and analysing enormous datasets at incredible speeds. The most ethical use of Artificial Intelligence is to ensure food, water, energy and climate security.

In the wake of devastating floods we experienced last year in Slovenia, we embraced advanced satellite and digital technologies to monitor and model our water bodies and river basin ecosystems, analyse weather patterns, manage our natural resources sustainably and protect our infrastructure.

The future of our planet hinges on our ability to manage our water resources wisely. As we move forward, let us renew our commitment to a water secure world, to fostering partnerships and ensuring that every person, regardless of their nationality, geography, or social status has access to safe, clean and sustainable water.

Slovenia, with its expertise and experience in transboundary water cooperation stands ready to contribute to these global efforts and share our knowledge and experience.

We believe that by combining advanced technologies, we can build a sustainable future for all.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a global family, we must stand shoulder-to-shoulder to rebuild trust in multilateralism and ensure a more inclusive, equitable, fair and sustainable future for all. The pact for the Future, together with the Declaration on Future Generations and the Global Digital Compact provide us with essential guidance on this path.

So let this Summit OF the Future be also Summit FOR the Future, and not just ours but for all those who in many years are yet to come. To our Earth, the planet we call home.

As today's world leaders, this is our responsibility.

Thank you.

Check against delivery