

*Mister President, dear Secretary General Grynspan, Excellencies, distinguished Delegates,*

*We fully subscribe to the statement made on behalf of the EU and its Member States and wish to emphasize that Slovenia, although a small country is a long standing partner of LDCs.*

*Slovenia is active in different thematic projects in LDCs, for instance:*

- education and poverty eradication,*
- water, health and vaccines,*
- food security and environmental protection*
- empowering women and children*

*We have provided scholarships for students from Senegal and Angola, implemented infrastructure projects that support education in Burundi, Rwanda and Madagascar and supported health through vaccine donations in Congo, Rwanda and Uganda.*

*Regarding clean water, food security and reducing hunger, Slovenia financed projects in Rwanda, Madagascar, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda.*

*To support development in post-conflict situation, Slovenia engaged in infrastructure projects in Burundi.*

*Slovenia gives special emphasis to empowerment of women and has regarding to that financed projects in Uganda and Rwanda. For example, in Rwanda, Slovenia supported project called Education and economic empowerment of vulnerable groups of women in Rwanda. The aim of the project, in which more than 800 women and girls were involved, was to increase the literacy and economic independence of the most vulnerable groups of women and girls in the suburbs and surroundings of Kigali. Through literacy and training they have improved their employment opportunities and economic situation, which helps them get out of the circle of poverty, with benefits for the wider communities in Rwanda.*

*In line with our strong commitment to address climate change impacts, especially in most vulnerable countries, we are contributing to the Least Developed Countries Fund of the Global Environment Facility.*

*We remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing good partnerships between countries, as a key element for addressing the many challenges of our time in more effective manner.*

*Thank you*