



Agenda item: 7

General Debate

Statement by:

**Hungary**

At the outset, Hungary would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for hosting this important Ministerial Conference.

We also extend our warmest congratulations to Secretary-General Rebecca Grynszpan for her dedicated and tireless leadership.

### Excellencies,

As the world continues to grapple with the intersecting challenges of economic uncertainty, international security threats, and the escalating impacts of climate change, the path to global peace and prosperity remains under pressure. In this context, Hungary reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the multilateral cooperation.

The year 2025 marks a significant milestone. While we are confronted with persistent and multifaceted global challenges, we also have a unique opportunity to reflect on eight decades of progress and achievements within the framework of the United Nations, through the UN80 Initiative.

Hungary remains a steadfast supporter of the UN-based multilateral system and stands ready to contribute to strengthening all three pillars of sustainable development. We place particular emphasis on the protection of our natural environment and resources, which form the foundation of our family-oriented policy approach.

Our strategic priorities include enhancing resource efficiency, promoting sustainable consumption and production, and accelerating the green transition—key drivers for increasing competitiveness, innovation, and employment.

Hungary's performance on the Sustainable Development Goals reflects our continued dedication: according to the 2025 Sustainable Development Report, Hungary scored 80.4 points on the SDG Index, placing 21st globally. This demonstrates our sustained efforts to contribute meaningfully to the

implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to building a more resilient and inclusive future for all.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Unfortunately, the world remains significantly off track in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Only 17% of the SDG targets are currently on track, while progress on the remaining 83% is either limited or insufficient. This stark reality underscores the urgent need for intensified global efforts to overcome persistent obstacles—including armed conflicts, structural inequalities, and constrained financial resources.

Hungary continues to underscore the fundamental importance of peace, believing firmly that sustainable progress can only be realized through inclusive dialogue and genuine cooperation.

Our foreign policy is rooted in the principles of mutual respect and non-interference. We strongly believe that all countries—regardless of their size, geography, or level of development—possess the sovereign right to determine their own paths toward development.

In line with this approach, Hungary launched its ‘Opening to the South policy’ as part of a broader strategic realignment in foreign and economic relations. This policy aims to build strong, pragmatic, and respectful partnerships with African countries. Through the transfer of technology, knowledge, and private sector collaboration, we are contributing to mutually beneficial development outcomes, job creation, and long-term prosperity.

A concrete example of this cooperation is the Hungarian Water Cluster, which is implementing innovative, large-scale infrastructure projects to enhance water management capacity in several African nations—addressing a fundamental pillar of sustainable development.

To accelerate development financing, Hungary urges multilateral development banks to play a stronger role in mobilizing investment, attracting private capital, and supporting domestic resource generation in developing countries.

Beyond short-term solutions, investments should foster resilience, self-reliance, and inclusive growth. Supporting small and medium-sized enterprises is key to achieving these goals.

Hungary believes that managing migration is not the solution - Instead, we must focus on addressing the root causes by creating viable living conditions in countries of origin.

Distinguished Delegates,

While our approaches may evolve, UNCTAD's mission remains constant: to foster prosperity, reduce inequality, and support the integration of the most vulnerable into the global trading system.

In closing, Hungary reaffirms its strong support for UNCTAD and the leadership of Secretary-General Rebecca Grynszpan. We remain committed to advancing shared prosperity and sustainable development for all.

Thank you.