Mr. Chair, esteemed delegates,

Slovenia is a strong supporter of peace and peaceful settlement of conflicts. Unfortunately, we live in challenging and unstable times. This is precisely why the need for multilateralism, cooperation and rules-based order is now greater than ever. The UN must be at the core of our efforts to build a more secure, more prosperous and more stable world.

Slovenia welcomes the Secretary General's efforts in support of peacekeeping through his initiatives Action for Peacekeeping and Action for Peacekeeping +.

We are strongly committed to peacekeeping. Slovenia cannot provide large numbers of peacekeepers, but highly dedicated and experienced personnel. We possess a lot of experience coupled with good practices and we are ready to share it.

Current events in the world have unfortunately shown that peace is not something to be taken for granted. Only through collective effort peace can be kept and achieved. Slovenia is convinced that the UN provides for the best available way to achieve this. Nevertheless, the UN cannot achieve this alone. Strengthening partnerships is vital to carry out this endeavour.

Also in this respect, Slovenia has established the Peace Operations Training Centre in 2019. The Centre improves the competences of experts deployed to UN peacekeeping operations and missions, and to the EU, NATO and OSCE. It is open for participation of personnel from all
over the world. It also promotes the Women, Peace and Security agenda and gender equality, which are crucial for sustainable peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding.

In conclusion, I would like to use this opportunity to inform you that Slovenia is a candidate for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for the term 2024–2025. With our candidature, we aim to contribute our share in the maintenance of international peace and security. Our desire is to seek constructive solutions rooted in respect for international law as the best guarantee of international peace and security, including the mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflicts and respect for the decisions of international courts and tribunals.

It is our wish that this high-level meeting will have a concrete follow-up. A format that will work on a more concrete agenda how to strengthen further this partnership for peace along the Action for Peacekeeping and Action for Peacekeeping +.

Thank you.