

Delegation from Hungary Position Paper for the General Assembly

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) are: Nuclear Disarmament and International Security; Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All; and Combating Human Trafficking. Deeply committed to the mandate of the GA, Hungary looks forward to discussing the abovementioned topics in order to find extensive solutions to address these challenges.

I. Nuclear Disarmament and International Security

The existence of nuclear weapons continues to threaten international security and the life of every individual of the international community. Although nuclear weapons systems have been largely dismantled over the last decades, the threat of a nuclear mass destruction remains present. Being a non-nuclear weapon state, Hungary is attentive to the special responsibility that nuclear-weapon states possess. Hungary is highly alerted by the nuclear proliferation on the Korean peninsula for every nuclear proliferation risks the security of the whole international community. Therefore, we are deeply committed to the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Hungary stands in full support with the *Non-Proliferation Treaty* (NPT), which was signed and ratified in 1968. Being a cornerstone of worldwide non-proliferation, Hungary is especially dedicated to the article VI of the NPT in order to achieve complete and verifiable nuclear disarmament. Hungary co-sponsored the GA resolution 71/67 on nuclear disarmament verification and was a member of a Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on disarmament verification established by the GA resolution 67/53. Furthermore, Hungary has hosted training activities for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and tested newly developed safeguards technologies and surveillance equipment within the Hungarian Safeguards Support Programme. Ratified by the Hungarian parliament in 1999, we remain deeply committed to the *Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty* (CTBT) that was adopted by the GA and opened to sign in 1996. Although it did not enter into force because eight annex 2 key states of this treaty have not ratified it, Hungary is an active supporter by serving as an article XIV Co-Coordinator to promote the entry into force of the CTBT from 2013 until 2015.

Being aware of the need for extensive cooperation between nuclear and non-nuclear weapon states, Hungary advocates for a non-discriminatory, internationally and effectively verifiable Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT). Proposing a step-by-step approach to the international community, a FMCT should be negotiated within multilateral consultation by nuclear as well as non-nuclear weapon states. Taking into consideration that recent negotiations failed due to discrepancies about the subject of fissile material, finding a definition of restricted weapon-grade fissile materials, on which all negotiating parties can agree upon, is a crucial step towards the realization of a FMCT. This could include but may not be limited to the definition of the international safeguards from the IEAE. The verification mechanisms would depend on a mutually agreed definition and would be mandated to the IAEA. While the Conference on Disarmament (CD) remains deadlocked, Hungary aims to uphold the dialogue between states by calling on all Member States to gather in multilateral negotiations to establish a FMCT. This will incredibly increase international security, contribute to the implementation of article XI of the NPT, and prevent fissile materials from being misused by non-state actors. Hungary is looking forward to enhanced collaboration with the other members of the GA to ensure nuclear disarmament.

II. Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

In times of exponential worldwide population growth and rising shortage of non-renewable resources, creating modern and sustainable energy sources calls for our deepest commitment. Hungary finds itself in a situation of an intensified demand of energy. The final consumption of electricity that increased by about 27% from 1990 lead to high energy costs, which inevitably have a negative impact on family incomes. Furthermore, Hungary is still suffering from the aftermaths rooted in the policies of the former Soviet regime. Due to the past reliance on coal burning factories and the lack of adequate policies aiming to reduce pollution during the Soviet era, Hungary faced a great challenge to adapt to modern energy systems in the past two decades.

Hungary is deeply committed to all Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and especially SDG 7, which is a vital cornerstone of the 2030 Agenda adopted by the GA in resolution 70/1. Hungary's National Energy Strategy to 2030 that complies with the UN 2030 Agenda focuses on the assurance of sustainable and secure energy while supporting the competitiveness of the economy. Hungary was the first state in the European Union (EU) to approve the *Paris Agreement* (2015) that resulted from the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This agreement delivers a holistic approach aiming to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and global warming. Facing higher energy costs, the Hungarian government initiated a policy of

mandatory price cuts to reduce household energy bills and relieve family incomes. With the *Act on Electric Energy* (2007) Hungary established a legal framework that favours grid connection and access to electricity generated from renewable energy. On this basis the Hungarian government initiated the Renewable Energy Support Scheme (METÁR) in 2017 and introduced pecuniary incentives for investing in installations and infrastructure for electricity from renewable energy sources. Hungary proves its determination towards this topic by having reached its 2020 targets for energy efficiency, renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions already in 2015.

An increasing demand for affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy inevitably requires a suitable growth of skilled labour and technical know-how from which the whole international community could benefit. Therefore, Hungary is keen to establish the Green Work Initiative (GWI). This campaign should be based on but not limited to three foundational pillars that stand in a profound collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO). Firstly, an enhanced capacity building of experts that are trained in sustainable green technology and energy system should fit the increasing demand for skilled staff in the sector of modern energy. The Green Jobs Programme of the ILO has the potential to serve as starting point and could be expanded by the participation of all Member States of the GA. Secondly, a campaign that advertises the GWI should be launched to build up a general consciousness for the importance of sustainable work and create the perspective of engaging in a sustainable energy job. An integral part of this campaign should include awareness for sustainable energy work in school education. Thirdly, the existing funds that are by now mainly generated by the ILO need to be expanded in order to increase the sphere of influence of green energy technology. Thus, the common problem of little investment capital could be solved. Hungary is looking forward to further cooperation with all Member States of the GA to pave the way for a greener future.

III. Combating Human Trafficking

The huge migratory waves the world is currently facing do not only lead to an increase of incidents of human trafficking but also set a framework for criminals and especially smugglers to conduct criminal activities and exploit human beings. Hungary lies in the crossroad of east-western and south-eastern migration and is thereby heavily affected by the EU's inability to sufficiently react to this situation. As a result, Hungary is noting with great concern the inhuman exploitation of men, women and children.

Hungary is strongly dedicated to the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* (UDHR). According to the human trafficking data base Polaris, human trafficking emerged to a multiple billion-dollar industry. Thus, crimes of human trafficking are intertwined with Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) as stated in the *UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime* (2000). That is why Hungary engaged in joint investigations with Dutch and Belgium police within the project Prevention of and Fight against Crime of the EU in order to enhance transnational cooperation. Hungary created a legal framework that prohibits all forms of trafficking and sentences criminal acts of trafficking up to life imprisonment by introducing Paragraph 175/b to our criminal code. Moreover, the Hungarian Baptist Aid introduced a specialised shelter program that protects women and children who have been forced into sexual exploitation. Social workers and psychologists are constantly working within these shelters to help the women and children process psychological traumata.

The global threat of human trafficking can only be addressed when international efforts are channelled towards the roots of human trafficking. Therefore, Hungary advocates for the renewed implementation of the Global Action to Prevent Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (GLO.ACT) that expired in 2019. In collaboration with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the EU and 13 other states from outside of Europe this approach established counter-trafficking mechanisms in each country. Since the threat of human trafficking cannot be reduced to one leading cause, the necessity for the development of anti-trafficking policies that conform with the variety of needs of single states is apparent. First of all, the former GLO.ACT program should be reviewed with the participation of all former stakeholders, errors should be detected and improvement strategies should be analysed. Following this process, the participating countries outside of the EU, who are deciding freely to take part, should be defined in consultation with the EU member states, since this project could build on already existing infrastructures of the EU member states. An initial funding could be carried out by the EU but should not be limited to it. The concrete measures of this GLO.ACT, which should be established for a period of five years, should include policy development, legislative assistance, victim assistance and capacity building. In order to decrease human trafficking and maintain security for our nations' populations, Hungary is looking forward to exchanging ideas and negotiating a substantial approach.