



Meetings Coverage
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SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE,
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Warning Inaction Could Create 'Dark Future', Delegates Urge Remaking Global Governance to Benefit All Countries, Not Bolster Powerful Few, as Summit of the Future Concludes

Government leaders emphasized the need to rethink global governance and create a fairer, more inclusive multilateral system that will "benefit all countries" rather than "increase the power of a few", as the Summit of the Future concluded its second and final day.

Warning that inaction could lead the planet "to a dark future", they stressed the need for Security Council reform, greater youth engagement in decision-making and bold actions to address the adverse impacts of climate change.

Member States highlighted these and other global concerns on Sunday, when they unanimously adopted the Pact for the Future, an ambitious commitment to a new start in multilateralism. (See Press Release [GA/12627](#)). It has two annexes: the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations.

"The trust that this UN system can deliver for everyone continues to decline," warned Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia. Emphasizing the need for reform, she underscored that the Security Council should represent voices from Africa, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region, adding that small States and their interests must be heard.

"We cannot afford to wait any longer", emphasized, Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, urging true and real reform that listens to the voices of developing countries and addresses their concerns.

Similarly, Eduardo Enrique Reina Garcia, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras, asserted that Council reform is necessary "to make it more democratic in order to re-establish respect for international law and build a new political and economic order that is able to deal with the self-determination of the peoples of the Global South".

Echoing these sentiments, Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Djibouti, said: "We are aiming to make that body more representative and rectify the injustice done to Africa and other regional groups."

Offering a path forward, Alexander Stubb, President of Finland, said that in two days, he will make three proposals – to expand the Council by five members from Latin America, Africa and Asia, as well as scrap the veto power, and if a Council member blatantly violates the Charter of the United Nations, its voting rights should be suspended.

"We are not achieving our Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we are not achieving our targets in the climate crisis and we are witnessing four major wars simultaneously – in Ukraine, Palestine, Sudan, and of course, Syria," he said, stressing that while the UN agencies in Geneva are effective, the Security Council is not, nor does it reflect the world of today.

Aisal Bin Farhan Al Saud, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, said that the Organization's institutions are not fit for purpose and have failed to address the humanitarian catastrophe in Palestine and hold the occupying Power, Israel, to account.

Among the many delegates who highlighted the role of youth in shaping a peaceful future was Daniel Noboa Azin, President of Ecuador, who warned that if the needs of the young people – representing 40 per cent of the population in Latin America and Africa – are not addressed, achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be impossible. Calling for targeted investment to tackle "the alarming and growing rates of youth unemployment", he said that this was the only way "to pull youth from the grasp of [...] criminal activities".

Likewise, João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of Angola, stressed the importance of including youth and women as "vital drivers" of transformation and modernization. "We cannot achieve our common ambitions without putting the most vulnerable at the centre of our action," he emphasized.

Ohoud Bint Khalfan Al Roumi, Minister of State for Government Development and Future of the United Arab Emirates, stressed the need "to listen to youth, to women and all segments of our societies when we are engaging in decision-making". This approach will help preserve the planet for future generations and establish peace, security and prosperity.

Eodor Nguema Obiang Mangué, Vice President of Equatorial Guinea, said the Pact for the Future must involve youth as drivers of change. Moreover, "there can be no better future if we do not address unilateral coercive measures and sanctions, racism and attempts to destabilize our countries, neo-colonialist approaches and other such mechanisms", he said.

During the debate, several Heads of State and Governments took the podium to highlight the security risks of the planet's changing climate, as speakers from small island developing States stressed that the scourge is threatening the lives of their people.

Climate change is a threat multiplier with the potential to worsen some of humanity's greatest challenges, such as poverty, hunger and health, warned Petr Pavel, President of the Czech Republic.

"We are on the frontline of the climate crisis... the security of our people is threatened by the rising tide of inaction," said Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas, Prime Minister of Vanuatu, speaking on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States. Calling for swift movement, he underlined that "our actions today must not compromise the rights of those who inherit this planet".

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Highlights



Highlights of the Security Council Activities



Highlights of General Assembly 78th Session
New York, 5 Sep. - 22 Dec. 2023



High-level meetings of the 79th session of the General Assembly
24-30 September 2024, New York



Summit of the Future
22-23 September 2024, New York



Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States
27-30 May 2024, Antigua and Barbuda



68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women
New York, 11-22 March 2024

Daily Noon Briefing



15 October 2024

In Lebanon, 12 UN trucks delivered bottled water, family hygiene kits and blankets, among other vital aid, to the Marjeyoun and Klayaa villages. This inter-agency mission is supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, World Food Programme, UN refugee agency, UNICEF and the UN Population Fund.

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On that, Murat Nurtleu, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, said that Central Asia stands on the front line of global warming and will face an above-average 2.5°C-degree temperature increase by 2050. To effectively tackle problems like melting glaciers, water scarcity and desertification, his country will host the first Regional Climate Summit under the UN auspices in 2026.

Noting that no meaningful climate action can take place in the face of financial shortages, Surangel S. Whippis, President of Palau, said that burdensome requirements of international funding for climate resilience make it inaccessible. Echoing this sentiment Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands, lamented that the international community must face the fact that "the money just isn't there – or when it is, it does not reach our shores and local communities." Small island developing nations deserve a dedicated focus, she asserted.

Boasting of his nation's natural endowment with agriculture and aquatic life and its paradoxical vulnerability to the raging forces of nature occasioned by climate change, Kiribati's representative offered the international community a way out of the harsh realities of global warming, drawing from its resilience in the face of dire environmental realities. Like with small island developing States, Member States must acquire necessary resources to adequately navigate through the demands of the fast-changing technological and socioeconomic global landscape, and "collaborate with us in promoting these practices" so that economic development today does not compromise the well-being of future generations, he said.

On a similar note, Prithvirajsing Roopun, President of Mauritius, referred to small island nations as the sentinels of change whose challenges clearly reflect the world's struggle with the climate crises and economic uncertainty. Global challenges which "threaten to unravel the very fabric of our society" require concerted commitment to preserve heritage of future generations as captured by the Pact for the Future. "As the tides rise along our shores, so too must our collective resolve to address these existential threats," he counselled.

Statements

JOÃO MANUEL GONÇALVES LOURENÇO, President of Angola, said that the adoption of the Pact for the Future represents "a real turning point" for a more dynamic, engaged and assertive approach to the issues that are of concern to the humanity. Stressing the importance of including youth and women as "vital drivers" of transformation and modernization, he urged to make a commitment "to step up the fight against poverty in all forms and dimensions". "We cannot achieve our common ambitions without putting the most vulnerable at the centre of our action and ensuring that no human being or country is left behind," he emphasized. On peace and security agenda, he advocated for an architecture of peace where "shared security" is defended, ensuring that no region feels protected at the expense of others. Moreover, it is not possible to build a successful world where dignity and access to opportunity exclusively benefit a privileged few, he stressed, urging for a consensus on reforming the global financial and sovereign debt architecture to create a fairer international financial system that serves developing countries.

PETR PAVEL, President of the Czech Republic, said that the Pact for the Future creates a solid base for a better and more effective multilateral system. Turning to the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine, he said that it is jarring that the Russian Federation acts in this manner even as it is a permanent member of the Security Council. On digital transformation, he said that the potential of today's emerging technology like artificial intelligence (AI) or biotech is enormous. Hence, it is critical to "contribute to our shared understanding of how to handle technology safely on a daily basis and protect ourselves against its misuse by malign actors", he added. On climate change, he said the scourge is a threat multiplier with the potential to worsen some of humanity's greatest challenges, such as poverty, hunger and health. The Czech Republic's historical experience transitioning from an authoritarian to a democratic State taught us many lessons. His country will continue to work towards becoming better and sharing its lessons with the international community.

BRICE CLOTAIRE OLIGUI NGUEMA, Transitional President of Gabon, said his country, undergoing national restoration, is committed to multilateralism which is a critical lever towards peace throughout the world. He also called for the reform of the international financial architecture with meaningful investments and easing debt. "More than half of our population is under the age of 20," he stressed, urging to enhance the participation of young people at the international level. The Pact for the Future is part of solidarity, pragmatism and cooperation, he said. "My country, Gabon, is fully committed to contributing to this endeavour," he concluded.

ANDRZEJ DUDA, President of Poland, said that while international law and solidarity is under threat and requires reform, "we cannot accept that those who challenge the order based on the UN Charter are gaining strength". The Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Security Council, attacking Ukraine, a sovereign State, cannot claim to safeguard the international order and forfeits its responsibilities. The multilateral system must be strengthened as today's challenges require action that individual States cannot address alone. Poland is determined to defend the Charter, he said, adding that his country advocates for peace, security and human rights. Hailing the Pact for the Future, he noted that the document also identifies actions to strengthen both multilateralism and the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, it is necessary to include women in Government and take youth perspectives into account. The outcome of the Summit must reconcile global perspectives. For its part, Poland will work with other States to achieve its outcomes, he said.

DANIEL NOBOA AZIN, President of Ecuador, said that all global decisions and commitments must be determined with "the involvement and contribution of those who today can build tomorrow". Urging to tackle "the alarming and growing rates of youth unemployment" through targeted investment, which will improve access for education and create better job opportunities, he said that this was the only way "to pull youth from the grasp of crime, drugs and transnational organized criminal activities". Detailing his country's efforts of creating an environment of safety and peace by providing educational and employment opportunities for youth, he spotlighted an "inseparable" link between peace and development. He observed that in Latin America and Africa, 40 per cent of the population is between the ages of 14 and 35, warning that, if the needs of the youth are not addressed, achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be impossible. "Young people are not just the future, but a tool at arriving to this future," he concluded.

PETER PELLEGRINI, President of Slovakia, stressed the need to ensure that the rules of the online world mirror the rules of the physical world. Words and deeds in the virtual world can be even more destructive because they reach a much broader audience. "We don't know what the future holds for us, but what we do know is that the pace of change will not get any slower," he added. "We also know education, inclusion, investing in our youth and reducing the digital divide play a vital role in bracing for our digital future," he went on to say. Everyone deserves an equal starting line with the digital technologies of today. They provide access to information, higher economic growth and fairer social conditions. Today's global challenges are urgent and complex, he went on to say, calling on Member States to garner political will and cooperation to tackle that reality.

ALEXANDER STUBB, President of Finland, said the Pact for the Future is extremely good, as it shows the difference between multilateralism, compromise and cooperation versus multipolarity and disorder. He added that, in 1945, when the United Nations was founded, it was a success, and that the adoption of yesterday's Pact shows that the United Nations works. "We are not achieving our Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we are not achieving our targets in the climate crisis and we are witnessing four major wars simultaneously – in Ukraine, Palestine, Sudan, and of course, Syria," he continued, stressing that the part of the United Nations that works are the agencies in Geneva, but not the Security Council, which does not reflect the world of today. He announced that, in two days, he will make three proposals to reform the Council – to expand it by five members from Latin America, Africa and Asia, as well as scrap the veto power, and if a Council member blatantly violates the Charter, its voting rights should be suspended.

EDGARS RINKĒVIČS, [President of Latvia](#), hailing the Pact for the Future, underlined the importance of multilateralism in an increasingly disconnected world. The United Nations is key to addressing challenges, such as pandemics, climate change and conflicts – all of which have no borders. New technology can help to reach the goal of a sustainable future, and the global Digital Compact is the key guiding document. Further, the international community's commitment to combating climate change and sea-level rise must be upheld, he underlined, noting their importance to peace and security. Moreover, gender quality must be considered for sustainable development. For its part, Latvia is a strong advocate of the women, peace and security agenda. His country also encourages efforts to reform the Security Council. Permanent members must uphold their responsibility to protect peace and security, he said, condemning the Russian Federation's continued war of aggression in Ukraine. If the international community succeeds in upholding its commitments to the Pact, "it will echo through generations".

EMOMALI RAHMON, [President of Tajikistan](#), said that the inclusion of climate and water issues in the final document "underscores the imperative for sustained and urgent action" to secure a peaceful and sustainable future. Despite some progress, "access to filtered water and sanitation remains insufficient," he said, voicing the commitment of his country to enhancing collaboration with other nations to advance water resource management and climate change action. "The international community can achieve success solely through dialogue," he said, urging policymakers to engage in "concerted and coordinated" actions at the global level to enhance collaboration and promote comprehensive security. Praising the inclusion of counter-terrorism in the Pact for the Future, he reaffirmed the "pivotal and coordinating role" of the UN in this area. Pointing out the rise in conflicts and civilian suffering, he called for the adoption of a special resolution titled "Decade of Promotion of Peace for Future Generations", underscoring the need for decisive action to empower the UN in conflict resolution.

ALESSANDRO ROSSI AND MILENA GASPERONI, [Captains Regent of San Marino](#), expressed deep concern about the armed conflicts which are still ongoing around the world. "We are now witnessing the highest number of wars since 1945, and the resulting devastating crises," they said. San Marino has taken in over 400 Ukrainian refugees, more than 1 per cent of the entire San Marino population, thanks to the solidarity of public and private institutions and non-governmental organizations, and with the help of many volunteers. San Marino firmly believes in dialogue, democracy and respect for others. "No one must remain indifferent to war, but instead, we must all work responsibly to create the condition for dialogue and peace," he said. The Pact for the Future gives new impetus to the entire multilateral system, strengthening the United Nations and institutions so they continue to represent a beacon for the protection of peace and human rights.

NIKOS CHRISTODOULIDES, [President of Cyprus](#), said that climate change, inequality and conflict are only some of the multiple challenges the world faces today, while addressing them requires leadership and transformative action. "As a member of the European Union and the Asia-Pacific Group, and with strong ties to the small island developing States, Cyprus has a unique position and stands as a bridge between regions and perspectives," he stressed, welcoming the growing global commitment to addressing the urgent issues reflected in the Pact. He recalled that Cyprus has put forward its candidacy for the Human Rights Council for 2025-2027, aiming to advance the human rights of all, with particular attention to children, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. "We will also promote cultural dialogue to bridge divides and combat discrimination," he said, calling to turn these ambitions to reality and ensure future generations inherit a world defined by justice, sustainability and peace.

PRINCE ALBERT II of [Monaco](#) said the Pact for the Future establishes a bedrock for a more prosperous world and allows young people to flourish in an environment protected from security threats such as transnational crime. "Peace is our most valuable asset" he added, for without access to human rights, a world benefiting all people is impossible. Further, the international community must address tensions exacerbated by climate change. None of the goals outlined in the Pact will be achieved without women and girls, he said. Their empowerment, such as access to education and decision-making, is essential to their participation and professional development. The power of sports in this regard is often underestimated. Monaco will continue to endeavour that the role of sport is recognized within the UN. Voicing concern over misuse of digital technologies, he urged the international community to ensure their proper use. Monaco welcomes the Global Digital Compact in that regard. The Summit reinforces trust in international institutions, and while multidimensional crises are delaying, the 2030 Agenda tools do exist to remedy them, he said, adding "the future that we aspire to depends on our present commitment".

WESLEY W. SIMINA, [President of the Federated States of Micronesia](#), expressed concerns about the implementation of the Pact for the Future, urging the United Nations to ensure "robust and lasting commitments" to transition from coal, oil and gas in all sectors, aligning with the Paris Agreement on climate change. With rising sea levels and extreme weather jeopardizing livelihoods and displacing communities, climate change poses "an existential threat" to Micronesia, he stressed, calling for urgent international cooperation to address the climate crisis. "Our planet is at a critical point of no return," he warned. "The Pact for the Future serves as a call to action, urging us to commit to ambitious climate targets and investments in renewable energy," he said, urging for the creation of "a green economy that prioritizes both our planet and our people". Stressing the Pact's importance for the survival of small island States like Micronesia, which face extreme challenges due to climate change, he urged all participants to "rally behind this Pact so that we can safeguard the future of our people and our world".

DAVID RANIBOK ADEANG, [President of Nauru](#), welcomed the Pact's ambition, but expressed several reservations. "We must still ask: Does it address the needs of the most vulnerable," he continued, urging Member States to transform their shared mission adopted in the Pact for the Future into clear action. Nauru is committed to a future of clean energy. The path ahead will not be easy; it demands commitment, innovative thinking and the courage to challenge existing norms. "We will judge this Pact not on the words spoken here, but on the actions taken in the years to come, and as we leave this Summit let us carry not just hope, but determination," he added.

JOSÉ RAÚL MULINO QUINTERO, [President of Panama](#), said that 64.8 per cent of his country's population is between 15 and 64 years old, with a significant proportion of young people among them, so the decisions made today can affect advancing towards a greener, better and safer future. "The Summit of the Future, with the participation of all global leaders, is a golden opportunity to raise our voice by reaffirming our commitment to bolstering the multilateral system," he stressed, adding that humanity has the opportunity to update and reform global institutions, including the Security Council and the international financial architecture, so that they respond to the political and economic realities of the future. "The 2030 Agenda has slowed down, current conflicts are inflicting suffering, poverty and hunger have already reached critical levels in many countries," he underscored, highlighting that the growing fear of the use of nuclear weapons, resulting from open conflicts, is also of concern.

HILDA HEINE, [President of the Marshall Islands](#), said that today's security challenges are overwhelming. In the Pacific and other fragile regions, development and security are linked, and as a small island, climate change remains her country's biggest threat. This meeting must boost the participation of youth as they are "the leaders of tomorrow, who will face the strongest consequences of inaction today". Welcoming the global digital compact, she spotlighted the important role of the joint programme to advance digitalization, urging "we can do more than commit. We can implement." Voicing frustrations, she said the gap between ambitious solutions and financial assistance is disheartening. Many of the SDGs remain out of reach despite political will. The international community must face the fact that "the money just isn't there – or when it is, it does not reach our shores and local communities", she lamented. Small island developing nations deserve a dedicated focus. The Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS [small island developing States] adopted earlier in 2024 must be respected, she underlined. Concluding, she noted that "Taiwan remains a key partner to the Marshall Islands" and deserves appropriate recognition, she added.

SURANGEL S. WHIPPS, [President of Palau](#), stated: "As the least contributors to climate change, we face its harshest effects." Rising sea levels and extreme weather threaten hospitals, schools and food security, he cautioned, commending international funding for climate resilience. However, burdensome requirements make it inaccessible. Financing tailored to special circumstances of small island developing States is critical for effective climate action. As a big ocean State, Palau is deeply connected to the ocean, he said, adding: "A healthy ocean means a healthy planet." And now, more than ever, States must resist the temptation to rush into deep seabed mining, which threatens irreparable harm to the ocean. "The technologies heralded as part of the green transition must not turn our largest carbon sink – the ocean – into a casualty of shortsighted greed," he stressed, noting that "if we can send people to space, surely we can innovate to meet our energy needs without exploiting the seabed or engaging in other destructive practices".

FAURE ESSOZIMNA GNASSINGBÉ, [President of Togo](#), said that today's "complex crises throughout the planet" necessitate a rethinking of international cooperation and development models. He warned that remaining passive could lead the planet "to a dark future" and emphasized the need to change direction. He called for a "better future for our current and future generations" through coordinated state efforts and renewed global policies, stressing that "multilateralism itself needs to be rethought". Turning to Africa, he highlighted its importance, noting that it "will continue to host most of the world's youth" and offer potential for strong markets, especially in green and blue economies. Emphasizing the importance of building a strong State that can provide guidance for present and future generations, he noted that despite efforts, "international aid often does not meet the requirements and the needs of populations". Therefore, he called for the bolstering of the role of African States as strategic partners, especially in the international arena, adding: "We can build a better future if only all voices are heard."

TIEMOKO MEYLIET KONÉ, [Vice-President of Côte d'Ivoire](#), reaffirmed calls for more solidarity among nations and more adequate financing of the 2030 Agenda and the African Union Agenda 2063. Turning to science, technology and innovation, he called on Member States to reinforce and enhance partnerships to build capacity, transfer technology and mobilize the necessary financial resources to facilitate access to opportunity. This will help to bridge the digital divide and improve governance of emerging technologies, especially AI. On a broader level, this will help tackle critical challenges in the not too far future, he added. To that end, multilateralism must be revitalized to encourage more robust international cooperation. The time has arrived to tailor international financial institutions and global governance to present day realities, he reiterated.

TEODORO NGUEMA OBIANG MANGUE, [Vice-President of Equatorial Guinea](#), said it is quite unlikely to achieve the future wanted by all if the crucial role of Africa is not recognized. He called for silencing the guns, multilateralism and inclusiveness and financing for inclusive, equitable and sustainable development, as well as for ensuring that no country is left behind. "There can be no better future if we do not address unilateral coercive measures and sanctions, racism and attempts to destabilize our countries, neo-colonialist approaches and other such mechanisms," he stressed, adding that the Pact for the Future must involve youth who must be drivers of change. "Equatorial Guinea is calling on all countries from the Global North and from the Global South to come together, to join our efforts and together build a future where every individual, regardless of their origin, race, gender or belief, can live in dignity and with hope," he concluded.

CHARLOT SALWAI TABIMASMAS, [Prime Minister of Vanuatu](#), speaking on behalf of the [Pacific small island developing States](#), said "we are on the frontline of the climate crisis... the security of our people is threatened by the rising tide of inaction." The Pact for the Future, the Declaration on Future Generations and the Global Digital Compact rightfully demand a transformative multilateralism and urgent climate actions. "The stakes could not be higher" as small island developing States face the consequences of climate change directly in the form of sea-level rise, natural hazards and erosion of the ecosystem. Calling for swift action, he underlined that "our actions today must not compromise the rights of those who inherit this planet." In that same vein, the decisions of the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai and its next edition in Azerbaijan must continue to be respected. Climate change is a security issue exacerbating social tensions which in turn create humanitarian disasters. To that end, peace operations must integrate climate change, also addressing the needs of vulnerable groups such as women and Indigenous People. The potential for digital technologies can only be realized if the digital divide is bridged.

IRAKLI KOBAKHIDZE, [Prime Minister of Georgia](#), cited the Summit of the Future as "a unique opportunity to demonstrate the power of effective global cooperation and multilateralism". The Pact for the Future offers a chance to turn the success of this Summit into a lasting transformation. It sets out a more effective course, leading to specific and sustainable progress for future generations. In a world marred by conflicts, aggressions and forced displacement, the Pact represents a crucial path forward, promoting global peace and security through adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and international law, strengthening accountability and ending impunity. "By following this path, we will uphold human rights and achieve sustainable development," he said.

GIORGIA MELONI, [President of Italy](#), pointing out numerous global crises, including the "unacceptable war of aggression on Ukraine", emphasized that "we have no choice but to act". Stressing that crises present opportunities, she urged to take a stand without hesitation. "No State can effectively master current challenges on its own", she noted, adding that any UN reform, especially of the Security Council, must uphold "equality, democracy and representativeness". Detailing Italy's new plan for Africa – an investment initiative "designed to cooperate with African nations from an approach that is neither paternalistic nor charitable" – she said it aimed to promote development and stability of Africa, granting young people "the right not to have to immigrate". On AI, she voiced concern about "insufficient awareness" about this "great multiplier". She warned that if used to further upset global balances, it could create potentially catastrophic scenarios. Therefore, it is crucial for AI to be harnessed by human beings, ensuring it is "human-centric".

ANDREJ PLENKOVIĆ, [Prime Minister of Croatia](#), said that Member States have gathered here today driven by common purpose: concern for the present and a commitment to shaping a better future. "This Summit is crucial because the choices we make now will define the world for future generations," he added. Today, the world faces an alarming surge in conflicts. The cooperative spirit that has long underpinned international relations, embodied by the United Nations, is under severe strain. The Russian aggression against Ukraine, the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza and beyond, as well as other global crises, are existential threats to global peace, security and humanity. In these turbulent times, restoring trust and solidarity among nations is not merely desirable, it is imperative. Sustainable development is not just an aspiration; it is essential for stability.

JONAS GAHR STØRE, [Prime Minister of Norway](#), highlighting Member States' reaffirmed commitment to international law, said: "The disregard for human life and international law that we are seeing today must not be allowed to continue." He also underscored the urgent need to address climate change, cut emissions, transform energy systems and protect the environment. "We need to close the extensive financing gap to achieve the SDGs – leaving no one behind," he added, noting that Norway, together with Mexico, Nepal and Zambia, will serve as co-facilitators for the next conference on financing for development in Seville in 2025. Moreover, Norway will continue to engage in the development of a UN framework convention on international tax cooperation. Turning to preventive diplomacy and peacebuilding, he called for guaranteed women's participation in all aspects of the peace and security agenda. Also needed is a more transparent, inclusive and effective Security Council with greater limitations on the use of the veto, he said, adding: "We need to address the historical injustice against Africa, and improve the representation of underrepresented regions."

JOHN BRICEÑO, [Prime Minister of Belize](#), said the world faces a triple planetary crisis and a development crisis, as human and planetary capacities are approaching limits from which there may be no rebound. "For the first time over a 12-month period spanning February 2023 to January 2024, global warming exceeded 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels," he stressed, urging to reimagine and remake this world into one that is just, secure and that will endure; one in which every voice matters. "Bring the voices from the margins to the centre – the voices of young people, women, Indigenous Peoples and the voices of countries like my own, the small island developing States," he said, adding that

his country, like other small island developing States, still lack representation where decisions are being made on their behalf. "As a placebo, we may be given the privilege of a five-minute intervention on a matter that will have consequential impacts on our future," he said, adding that the international financial architecture even in its current phase of reform is built on a foundation for a bygone era.

NIKOL PASHINYAN, [Prime Minister of Armenia](#), said that "we cannot change the past... but shaping today's future is today's most important task." While issues including peace, security, justice and human rights must be considered, the creation of "positive narratives" must be prioritized as many of today's global crises are surrounded by mutual accusations and threats, which creates deadlock. "Efforts should be made to see the prerequisites of a good future and think about them, because what happens in reality, first happens in our minds." Noting that his party's slogan "There is a future" was put forth despite difficult circumstances in his country, he said, in contrast to the previous three years, "I will more concentrate on opportunities rather than accuse neighbouring countries in my speech." Such thinking provides room for positive thinking and dialogue.

LUC FRIEDEN, [Prime Minister of Luxembourg](#), said today, the scourge of war still affects people worldwide. In Ukraine, people are defending themselves with exceptional courage against the war of aggression launched by the Russian Federation. People in the Middle East, Sudan, the Sahel and elsewhere are affected by wars, insecurity and terrorism. Blatant violations of the Charter and international humanitarian law are increasing, and the SDGs seem out of reach for many. Faced with this reality, "there is no miracle cure", he observed, underscoring the need to move from words to action on United Nations reform. The Security Council must become more representative, effective and accountable, and the role of the General Assembly should be strengthened, he added. Moreover, the global financial architecture must be reformed to meet the needs of developing countries.

NARENDRA MODI, [Prime Minister of India](#), noting that "the success of humanity lies in our collective strengths, not in the battlefield", called for essential reforms in global institutions. While terrorism continues to be a serious threat to global peace and security, other areas such as cyber, maritime and space are emerging as new theatres of conflict, he observed. In this context, he called for balanced regulation at a global level for the safe and responsible use of technology, underscoring that global digital governance should uphold national sovereignty and integrity. "Digital public infrastructure should be a bridge, not a barrier for global good," he said, confirming India's readiness to share its infrastructure with the world.

RUSSELL MMISO DLAMINI, [Prime Minister of Eswatini](#), said that humanity faces unprecedented global challenges, from poverty and inequality to climate change and technological transformation. Eswatini, along with other African nations, has long called for reforms to the United Nations to create a representative global governance system. Expanding the Security Council to include permanent representation for Africa and other marginalized regions is essential for addressing global security challenges. He also said that Eswatini believes Taiwan [province of China] must be included in the international system. Further, he called for comprehensive debt restructuring and reforms to international financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, ensuring they respond to the needs of developing nations. Fairer access to financing for climate resilience and development is also crucial. He also stressed the need for technologically advanced nations to support affordable technology sharing with developing countries.

GASTON BROWNE, [Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda](#), emphasizing that those who have contributed least to the climate crisis are suffering its worst impacts, said: "Big oil, hear this: your days of exploiting the Global South's natural resources are numbered." In the move to renewable energy, "rich industrialized nations must pay for the loss and damage that have devastated our communities", he added. Wealthy countries and their industrial giants must pay their dues and invest in a sustainable, equitable future for all, he stressed, adding that bold new international agreements to end fossil fuel proliferation, innovative financial instruments and advanced technology are urgently needed. Recalling the recently adopted Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS, he called on the international community to "be as bold as SIDS and to shift focus, not just to sustaining our damaged ecosystems, but also ensuring equity and fairness providing climate and financial justice to all". He further called upon leaders and policymakers to commit to an international financial architecture that bridges gaps, alleviates inequalities and fosters sustainable development.

PIETRO PAROLIN, [Secretary of State of the Holy See](#), said the future should be constructed on a foundation of principles, including the inherent, God-given dignity of every individual, promotion of integral human development, equality and sovereign dignity of all nations, and the establishment of trust between them. He stressed that the eradication of poverty must remain the overarching goal of all future action, bearing in mind that development is the name for peace. "The pursuit of peace requires the implementation of a general disarmament, and in particular, the total elimination of nuclear weapons," he said, adding that narrow geopolitical considerations must be put aside and strong economic lobbies must be resisted in order to uphold human dignity and promote integral development. Turning to AI, he stated that the Holy See advocates for a regulatory framework for its ethics that addresses data protection, accountability, bias and its impact on employment.

CHENDA SOPHEA SOK, [Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Cambodia](#), said that this Summit is an opportunity to rebuild trust in the multilateral system. While geopolitical tensions intensify, the Charter of the United Nations must be upheld. Highlighting the importance of the New Agenda for Peace in that regard, he added that his country, once war-torn, required peace to develop into a nation far advanced on the SDGs, particularly in poverty reduction, health care and climate change. Sustainable development requires sufficient financing, however, he continued, highlighting his country's investment in its human capital. Globally, Cambodia calls to reform the international financial architecture and address gaps, particularly for least developed countries. To that end, the international community must cooperate to bridge the digital divide and combat the misuse of technology. The Global Digital Compact will drive the digital transformation in that regard. Next, underlining the importance of safeguarding the well-being of future generations, he spotlighted Cambodia's own long-term development plan, the "Pentagonal Strategy", which ensures youth engagement, economic growth and social inclusion.

MURAT NURTLEU, [Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan](#), said that "in times of geopolitical turmoil and economic uncertainty, the world needs diplomacy and dialogue". On climate change, he stressed that Central Asia stands on the front line of global warming and will face an above-average 2.5°C temperature increase by 2050. To effectively tackle problems like melting glaciers, water scarcity, biodiversity loss and desertification, his country will host the first Regional Climate Summit under UN auspices in 2026. In addition, Astana proposes to open the UN Regional Centre on Sustainable Development for Central Asia and Afghanistan to further enhance coordination on SDG deliverables. As a country that directly suffered from nuclear tests, Kazakhstan calls on the international community to join its efforts in preventing any nuclear catastrophe in the future, he said, noting that creating regional nuclear-weapon-free zones – especially in the Middle East – would contribute to a world free of the nuclear threats.

WANG YI, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of China](#), noting that no country can stay "unaffected" in this challenging and turbulent world, said that "solidarity and cooperation is not a choice but a must". Major countries should break geopolitical circles and "serve as propellers for world solidarity and anchors for international peace", he stressed. In today's interconnected world, "countries are not riding separately in some 190 small boats, but rather we are all in a giant ship", he asserted, calling for win-win cooperation. It is crucial to build a future grounded in fairness and justice. International affairs should be handled through consultation by all countries, he stressed, urging "to reject the law of the jungle, where the strong bully the weak", oppose acts of hegemonism and protect the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries. As a new technological revolution unfolds, opportunities and challenges for global governance arise, he said, reaffirming his country's support for the UN as the main channel for AI governance.

LUC MERCELINA, [Prime Minister of Sint Maarten](#), speaking on behalf of the [Netherlands](#), said that the Summit of the Future presents a crucial opportunity to get things right for both present and future generations. "We should not forget what constitutes the fundamental principles of the UN architecture and its pillars of peace and security; development; human rights; and the rule of law," he said. The Pact for the Future clearly delivers on essential elements that are important to countries with vulnerabilities, in areas like water management and food security, for example. The Pact effectively addresses elements that are also crucial to small island developing States. "From defending ourselves against the sea with the Delta Works project, to creating new land like the province of Flevoland, the history of the Kingdom is a testament to the power of collaboration and learning," he added.

RETNO LESTARI PRIANSARI MARSUDI, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia](#), said lasting peace requires the consistent upholding of international law without double standards. In this regard, the ongoing genocide by Israel must be stopped immediately, and Palestine's right to statehood must be fulfilled based on the two-State solution. Turning to the right to development, she said the Global South has a right to be free from trade discrimination and debt traps, and gaps must be bridged to ensure that no country is left behind. Also needed is more adaptive, responsive and effective global governance, including by reforming the Security Council and the international financial architecture. "We cannot afford to wait any longer," she emphasized, urging true and real reform that listens to the voices of developing countries and addresses their concerns.

OHOOD BINT KHALFAN AL ROUMI, [Minister of State for Government Development and Future of the United Arab Emirates](#), said the Summit of the Future is a historical opportunity to confirm commitments to multilateral international cooperation and to overcome the major joint challenges. She also urged to prepare for the future by using modern technology, including AI, while at the same time respecting the principles of tolerance and countering hate speech. She called for strengthening creativity and innovation, as well as cooperation between Governments and different stakeholders, to achieve a safe digital future. "We are committed to a vision for the future that is based on the Global Digital Compact," she said. She also called to preserve the planet for future generations and to establish peace, security and prosperity. "To achieve this, we need to listen to youth, to women and all segments of our societies when we are engaging in decision-making," she stressed.

FAISAL BIN FARHAN AL SAUD, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia](#), welcomed the Pact for the Future, highlighting his country's efforts in its negotiations to achieve effective multilateralism. The Pact calls for an end to wars and easing of geopolitical tensions that only serve to divide. In that vein, the international community must redouble its efforts to meet the needs of all people. Moreover, the document promises a fair global order, he said, calling for UN reform that will uphold peace and security. The Organization's institutions are not fit for purpose and have failed to address the humanitarian catastrophe in Palestine and hold the occupying Power, Israel, to account. To that end, the Pact must be promoted. Turning to climate change, Saudi Arabia supports a context-specific approach, tailored to each country, focusing on economic development and mitigation of climate-change-related effects. Previous commitments such as to the Paris Agreement must be upheld. For its part, his country will continue to bolster cooperation, while respecting sovereignty, to build a better future for all.

LUMINITA-TEODORA ODOBESCU, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania](#), urged all States to respect international law, citing the aggression against Ukraine as "a very painful reminder". Our societies need peace, she asserted, noting that "wars, violence and human rights crises are taking away human dignity, drawing back economies and ruining years of development". The solutions to these threats must be rooted in international human rights principles and the rule of law. "Accountability comes first," she stated, underlining the need to ensure that aggression does not remain unpunished by the global community. Also, "never lose sight of tomorrow," she said, noting that the young generations need a healthy planet and urgent action to address critical challenges stemming from climate change.

VALDRACK JAENTSCHE, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua](#), said that developing countries pursue innovative solutions to achieve the SDGs amid economic crises and the adverse effects of climate change, inequality and technological barriers. Voicing concern over the continued suffering of developing countries from crises primarily caused by a "selfish and inhumane economic model", which exacerbates extreme poverty, hunger and inequality, he pointed to a lack of adequate responses from developed countries with regard to their commitments. "Recognizing these responsibilities and establishing a clear path towards fair reparations will enable us to address and to eradicate the side effects, such as extreme poverty, inequality and political tensions," he stressed. Noting that more than one-third of the world's population is impacted by "illegal unilateral coercive measures", which hinder development, he called for a "clear unequivocal commitment" to advance the right to development for all and for collective actions that strengthen inclusive international governance.

VINCE HENDERSON, [Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Business, Trade and Energy of Dominica](#), said that the 2030 Agenda was set in "what looking back today seems like a completely different world". Bold action to deliver the promises made is what is urgently needed. If history has taught us any lesson at all, it is that equality is not achieved by automatic means. Equality's maintenance must be the "unending obsession" of men and women, he added. Equality and standards of dignity are still unfinished business. Dominica is committed to healing the previous grievances that history has inflicted upon it. Its fight to eradicate poverty has been multipronged and multidimensional. But poverty is a mighty foe. For its part, Dominica has targeted the elderly, the uninsured, women, the very young and the differently abled with caring and supportive services. Still, its efforts are often challenged by severe weather like destructive hurricanes, he said.

YVAN GIL PINTO, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela](#), speaking on behalf of the [Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations](#), said that world leaders must commit to strengthening multilateralism and inclusive multilateral decision-making processes, particularly by preserving the Organization's intergovernmental nature and "by refraining from the growing tendency to replace, minimize or equate the central and leading role of States in the United Nations, with that of non-State actors, most of which represent the interests of the developed world". Turning to the inalienable right to self-determination for people living under foreign and colonial occupation, he once again called for a ceasefire in Gaza and for an end to the illegal Israeli occupation. He further appealed to the Security Council to fully shoulder its responsibilities, including by favourably reconsidering the question of Palestine's application for full membership in the United Nations.

"In addition to peace, our people deserve to live well," he continued, underscoring the urgent need to reform the international financial architecture, which is currently designed to serve the interests of the developed world and to perpetuate a model of subjugation, domination and dependence, so that nations can get back on track towards the timely achievement of the SDGs. States must refrain from the use of unilateral coercive measures, he added. He expressed regret that the Summit of the Future and its outcome documents may have not been as ambitious in turbocharging the 2030 Agenda.

EDUARDO ENRIQUE REINA GARCIA, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras](#), said his country is firmly convinced that a better world with opportunities for all is possible. "Honduras has come here, to this Summit of the Future, motivated by our aspiration to contribute to the achievement of the goals set out in the Pact for the Future," he said, adding that these goals are in line with the goals and the Plan of the Government of the President of Honduras, Iris Xiomara Castro Sarmiento, who has also warned about the risk caused by external debt to countries and has established the need to build a new international financial architecture focused on productive development with social inclusion. "It is necessary to promote a reform of the United Nations system when it comes to the Security Council. It is necessary to make it more democratic in order to re-establish respect for international law and build a new political and economic order that is able to deal with the self-determination of the peoples of the Global South," he stressed.

ALVA R. BAPTISTE, [Minister for External Affairs, International Trade, Civil Aviation and Diaspora Affairs of Saint Lucia](#), said that the Summit of the Future must respond to the crises of today. While Saint Lucia supports strong multilateralism in that regard, any solution – namely the Pact for the Future – requires unity and actual implementation. Focusing on sustainable development and creating opportunities for youth, the Government created the Ministry of the Youth Economy to drive development to ensure economic growth and decent work. While all

efforts are hampered by economic, social and environmental as well as geopolitical threats, and his country is vulnerable to external shocks to its economy and ecosystems, Saint Lucia is solutions-focused. For example, small island developing States have given the international community the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS agreement, which outlines concrete steps for sustainable and resilient States. "In our interdependent world, no country can solve global issues alone. The time has come for all partners to consider ways in which the benefits and burdens of a globalized world can be more fairly shared across countries and populations."

MAHAMOUD Ali YOUSOUF, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Djibouti](#), sharing Africa's vision for a continental renaissance, called for a reformed international financial architecture that addresses inequities and aligns better with contemporary needs. The burden of debt on African countries is increasing unsustainably, exacerbated by unfair trade regimes and political conditions that limit their manoeuvrability, he stressed. To restore trust, "we have to rethink and redefine global governance" to create a fairer and more effective multilateral system. Pointing out Africa's severe underrepresentation in international financial institutions, he noted that the countries of the continent hold only "6.5 per cent of the vote shares" despite hosting numerous programmes. Turning to the reform of the Security Council, he said it should be "accelerated as part of the new order". "We are aiming to make that body more representative and rectify the injustice done to Africa and other regional groups," he concluded.

ZEINA TOUKAN, [Minister for Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan](#), said the clock is ticking with only six more years to go on the 2030 Agenda. Multiple crises have had a devastating impact on several countries and their potential to move towards sustainable development. Delayed action within a single country affects other countries. She emphasized the importance of taking tangible steps to help people recover their trust and faith in the multilateral system. Concessional and predictable financing is still needed to create growth momentum. Reforming the multilateral financial system is also needed to build resilience, respond to economic shocks and manage risks in a way that leaves no one behind. "Youth deserve a better future – a future of justice, peace and opportunity," she added, stressing the need to remember the world's most vulnerable, including the people of Gaza. Israel's war is creating a lost generation deprived of peace, hope and opportunity, she added.

MARIS SANGIAMPONGSA, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand](#), said that to help create a future where all can be protected, his country's Sufficiency Economy Philosophy, its locally driven people-centred and planet-centric development approach, prioritizes the sustainable use of the planet's resources and teaches its people how to live harmoniously and in balance with nature. Thailand is also fully committed to UN reform, so that the Organization can truly represent the interests of all countries, and the Council will be more effective in maintaining international peace and security. Human rights is the foundation of a prosperous future, he emphasized, noting that Thailand has presented its candidature for the United Nations Human Rights Council for the term 2025-2027. Underscoring the need to prioritize youth engagement, empower their voices and invest in their potential, he said Thailand is proud to have youth delegates in its delegation to the General Assembly.

SERGEI KHOMENKO, [Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of Belarus](#), said the world is being held hostage by the egoistical approaches adopted by Western countries which desire to ensure their own interests at the expense of the interests of other countries. "We call on all States to exhibit such political will and kickstart a global dialogue on security following the spirit of San Francisco," he said, urging to craft common constructive basis for the building of a new fair multipolar world order. "We've built a strong people-centred State which is implementing effective policies that are human-centric, we have a State that works for the people in the name of humanity," he stressed, adding that these successes are confirmed by international ratings, since Belarus is ranked thirtieth in achieving the SDGs. "Sanctions are one of the most serious barriers to sustainable development on our planet," he underscored, calling upon the Summit to conclude that a civilized future is wholly incompatible with illegal sanctions.

OSMAN SALEH MOHAMMED, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea](#), said that "no nation can stand alone in the face of shared challenges". The international community must work together, guided by the principles of mutual respect, equity and cooperation. In that same vein, national sovereignty and self-determination must underpin the international order, and all nations must be free to enjoy their own paths to development, unhindered by interference and unilateral coercive measures, he said. Reaffirming Eritrea's support for multilateralism, he noted that peace and security are prerequisites to sustainable development. However, devastating impacts from global conflicts are hampering efforts. Diplomacy must be prioritized over force. To that end, his country supports reforming the Security Council and democratizing global financial institutions and is "utterly dismayed" that language suggested by Global South countries was absent from the agreements on reforming the current financial infrastructure. Turning to the benefits of technology, he warned against its misuse and cybercrime and called for equitable sharing.

PENNY WONG, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia](#), said that "trust that this UN system can deliver for everyone continues to decline". Emphasizing the need for reform, she warned that this process "should benefit all countries, including small and medium countries rather than increasing the power of a few". She went on to call for a reform of the Security Council to represent voices from Africa, Latin America and the Asia Pacific, adding that small States and their interests must be heard. Also, there is a need for stronger "peacebuilding and conflict prevention architecture" to resolve crises in Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan. As the world falls behind on the SDGs, with climate change reversing progress, she detailed her country's efforts to advancing climate initiatives and supporting Pacific Island nations in addressing climate-related sea-level rise, including through a legally binding treaty. In conclusion, she called on all UN members to work together to reform and strengthen the Organization, adding that this is "our Summit, our United Nations, our future".

AHMED ATTAF, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad of Algeria](#), urged the world to "wake up" to take stock of the challenges it faces. The international community must rise up now more than ever to confront the various dangers lurking all over the world. Crises and wars are getting worse and growing in number while development gaps are only getting deeper. Moreover, climate change and environmental dangers, are reaching unprecedented levels. The international community must address the marginalization of developing countries, notably African countries, in the Security Council in particular. The United Nations has a responsibility to meet the challenges and requirements of this era. Such reform would restore the Organization to its vital role as the beating heart of international diplomacy and multilateral action.

BAKHITIYOR SAIDOV, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan](#), said his country has made substantial progress in reducing poverty, promoting gender equality and advancing climate resilience. It is determined to double its gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030 and achieve upper middle-income status. Noting that Central Asia has long faced the impacts of global warming, caused by water scarcity, environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity, he said Uzbekistan is undertaking substantial measures to enhance environmental sustainability and plans to organize a climate forum in Samarkand in 2025. Developing transport corridors is crucial to accessing global markets, he emphasized, highlighting that the construction of the Trans-Afghan railway, one of Uzbekistan's key projects with its partners, will provide access to international ports and is significant in the region's economic development. Voicing concern about Afghanistan, he said Uzbekistan is engaged in pragmatic efforts to support that country's recovery and development and underlined the UN's crucial role in coordinating international approaches to that end.

PÉTER SZIJJÁRÓ, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary](#), urged to change international politics fundamentally, coming back to the basis of mutual respect, where dialogue should be the major tool. "European politicians usually argue in favour of diplomacy and peaceful solutions of certain wars if they are far away from Europe, but nowadays, unfortunately, a war is going on in Europe, and those who argue in favour of peace are immediately stigmatized, attacked and criticized," he stressed. He also said there are two sad scenarios ahead: the risk of the outbreak of the third world war or that the world will be divided into blocs again. "We want that the next decades would be characterized by connectivity and fair international cooperation," he underscored, adding that the United Nations should play a huge role in

this direction.

RAFARAVAVITAFIKA RASATA, [Prime Minister of Madagascar](#), noted that 70.6 per cent of her country's population is under 30 years old. To that end, the Government launched a campaign to increase youth participation in the Summit, "Let us give the voice to the future", which calls for more inclusion in public policy and participation in decision-making. All crises require collective action, leaving nobody behind, she said, voicing alarm that only 10 per cent of the SDGs have been reached. "Let us respect our commitments," she urged, recalling the 2030 Agenda as well as the Paris Agreement. Madagascar advocates for fair international cooperation and for reformed multilateralism to be more inclusive and equitable so that the needs of small island developing countries are kept in mind. Quoting Madagascar President Andry Rajoelina, she said: "Africa is not a problem. Africa is the solution." The solutions brought forth in this summit must engage with Africa and its youth, she said.

JUSTIN TKATCHENKO, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Papua New Guinea](#), called for real action to ensure that the Pact for the Future can benefit all in "an inclusive, fair and just way". Despite notable strides in social and security policies, he noted that his country "can do better" to deliver on the SDGs. Therefore, the Government is improving national leadership, implementing a national development priorities road map as well as investing in the well-being of women, girls and youth. Expressing concern over the slow pace of climate finance, he noted that in his country, "there is hardly a trickle", and called for stronger support. As Papua New Guinea moves towards industrialization through resource processing, he welcomed development partnerships that are non-exploitative and aligned with national priorities. "Without peace and security, there is no sustainable development," he stressed, urging global cooperation to achieve the SDGs and the Pact for the Future.

FREDERICK MAKAMURE SHAVA, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Zimbabwe](#), said that the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement focused on "the what" in terms of goal-setting commitments. "Now it is time to focus on 'the how'," he said. Rallying behind global institutions, including the United Nations, is a must to meet common goals. It is equally imperative that developed countries provide support to developing States including in the form of financial resources and technology transfer. The need to include women and youth in the peace and security agenda cannot be overemphasized. The need for political will is paramount, he added. It is critically important to focus on the particular needs of vulnerable countries, least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, like Zimbabwe.

The representative of [Bangladesh](#) said a remarkable people's movement in his country two months ago was a stark reminder of how 170 million people valued their aspirations to freedom, dignity, justice and equality over sheer growth numbers. He underscored the need to rediscover learning beyond the skewed remit of education and to democratize digital technology tools, applications and innovations beyond profit, lest many are left out in a vast, evolving world of work. "I see how people in deserts, islands or coasts without literacy or numeracy can turn their circumstances around. They ask for modest support," he emphasized, calling for solutions to reach billions on their feet. "Let us liberate the potential latent in entrepreneurship of individuals and enterprises across the developing world, where so much still revolves in the informal economy," he declared.

FREDERICK MITCHELL, [Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Public Service of the Bahamas](#), said that every time the Caribbean region tries to use the provisions of the market to save itself, the response from the powerful is to use their laws and other forms of coercion to ensure that Caribbean innovations in the market do not succeed. "They often use the moral principle that they are preventing money laundering or tax evasion or some other invented evil," he said. "We are about 400,000 people – this is not even the size of a small village in India. We fight, though, for the right to exist in the land that we now occupy and govern," he stressed, adding that there must be a guiding moral and ethical principle going forward to 2030 and beyond. "That is why we say today, now more than ever, we need the United Nations," he concluded.

HAKAN FIDAN, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Türkiye](#), stressing the need for an effective structure that will produce common solutions to global problems and "uphold hope against despair", called on delegates to work towards a just, inclusive and effective multilateral model. Underscoring the importance of comprehensive reform at the United Nations, especially in the Security Council, he said: "The world is bigger than five." The resolutions that are adopted with an overwhelming majority in the Assembly cannot be implemented because of the Council, he pointed out, adding that international peace and security cannot be left to the will of a privileged clique. Reform of international financial architecture is crucial for achieving sustainable development, he said, also highlighting the efforts of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, located in his country, to close the digital gap.

NICOLÁS ALBERTONI, [Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay](#), reported that – although its greenhouse gas emissions are "minimal" on a global level – his country has completed a transition to obtain 90 per cent of its energy from renewable sources. Now, Uruguay is undergoing a second transition towards electric mobility. However, "like so many developing countries", he said that this needs others to comply with their climate finance commitments within the framework of "common but differentiated responsibility". Welcoming the Pact's establishment of a process to measure development beyond gross domestic product (GDP), he noted that this is something Uruguay has long called for "to avoid punishing those who are making a lot of effort to do things well". Spotlighting the many people displaced by conflict and crisis, he said that there "should be no doubt" that the Pact represents "a great step forward". He stressed, however, that the focus must now turn to ensuring that commitments made "do not become just good intentions".

SERGEY VERSHININ, [Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation](#), recalling that the UN was born out of combatting fascism and that the Organization's credibility is genuine multilateralism, said the UN must play a central role in a multipolar world. In that vein, his country took an active role in the elaboration of the Pact for the Future. However, the adopted text contains non-consensus elements and "spells negative consequences for the UN". The Russian Federation dissociates from language in both the Pact for the Future and the Digital Compact undermining the intergovernmental nature of the UN as well as their selective quoting of international law including the lack of mention of non-interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign States. His country cannot therefore support the strengthening of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, known for his bias and "condoning" Western interests, he said. Moreover, the Global Digital Compact contains shortcomings, putting non-Government entities and Governments on equal footing. The Russian Federation welcomes the Declaration on future generations, an example of multilateralism at work if the political will is present. Further, his country underlines that these agreements do not impose any obligations on the Russian Federation.

The representative of [Lebanon](#), apologizing on behalf of her country's Prime Minister for his absence due to the destruction facing the Lebanese people, highlighted that his Government "is working to raise preparedness levels in response to the consequences of the aggression on all fronts – humanitarian, diplomatic, health, livelihood, and security – and to address the displacement and targeting of residential areas following the massacre that claimed the lives of over 3,000 Lebanese citizens in Beirut, the South, and the Bekaa." Recalling Lebanon's historical contributions to global governance, from helping draft the UN Charter in 1945 to hosting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) third conference, she stressed the importance of peace, dialogue and cultural diversity in countering violence and destruction. "Exile, exodus, hunger and disease have a huge effect on the minds of future generations," she said, warning that "the causes of future wars are brewing currently in the minds of different generations". In this regard, re-examining UN documents with each new generation which are evolving quickly due to technological progress is key.

KARAMOKO JEAN MARIE TRAORE, [Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Burkina Faso](#), said that the future is bright, but to build that bright future, "we need rigorous, consistent international cooperation". It's vital to bolster the effectiveness and efficiency of peacekeeping operations as well as the credibility of the United Nations Organization when it comes to managing crises and conflicts. Development must remain front and centre of all efforts, especially when it comes to implementation, bolstering capacity and technology transfer, as well as providing sufficient and predictable funding for development. "We must continue promoting our commitment

to the empowerment of all girls and women across all areas," he went on to say.

The representative of [Sri Lanka](#) said that the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are in peril. "What we lack is the political will and the commitment to multilateralism," he said, adding that his country sees the considerable opportunities that can be seized through the Pact for the Future. "Sri Lanka is concerned about the growing SDGs financing gap," he stressed, calling for accelerated reform of the international financial architecture, to better respond to the challenges faced by developing countries. The various threats to peace and security, whether on land, at sea, in the air, outer space or cyberspace, should be addressed through efforts to restore trust, strengthen solidarity and enhance cooperation, he noted. "We cannot turn a blind eye to serious and gross violations of human rights in one part of the world, while we call for human rights accountability in another," he said, stressing that multilateralism cannot be sustained on double standards.

The representative of the [Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#) said that, despite an unfavorable situation due to external factors, his country is strengthening its capacity and has seen growth in all fields, from economy to culture. Stressing that a peaceful environment is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, he said the international community must not tolerate imperialism and war against sovereign nations. Expressing concern about the military actions of the United States and its allies, he said these actions undermine the global security landscape. He also pointed to the negative impact of unilateral sanctions on the economic development and lives of people in developing countries. Underscoring the importance of the right to development, he voiced concern that the Security Council does not take any action to stop war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The representative of [New Zealand](#) said that as a small State, New Zealand has long been a benefactor and beneficiary of the international rules-based system and remains committed to work constructively to make global governance ready for today and the future. "Our multilateral system is imperfect," she said, adding that the job is not done, despite the significant strides made through the Summit. "We must use all the tools at our disposal to create a more representative and better networked United Nations that is properly equipped to respond to the challenges of our times and those which lie ahead." Regarding the Pact, she said she is pleased with the relative balance between the three pillars of the UN: peace and security, sustainable development and human rights. She would have supported stronger language on Council reform, despite seeing some glimmers of hope. New Zealand welcomes the Compact as an opportunity to foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future for everyone. This future rests on three essential pillars: human rights, multi-stakeholder governance and inclusion.

PEDRO SÁNCHEZ PÉREZ-CASTEJÓN, [Prime Minister of Spain](#), said that "in times of change – such as those we are experiencing now – fear is our worst enemy". The change desired by the global community can only be built with hope, and the Summit is a key step in that direction. For its part, Spain is supporting a future of increased international cooperation through its actions, increasing its official development assistance (ODA) to 0.7 per cent of gross national income by 2030. Further, as host to the fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in June 2025, Spain will work towards agreement on specific measures to mobilize the resources and policies necessary to promote sustainable development. These include strengthening multilateral development banks, as well as optimizing use of special drawing rights (SDR) and potential reallocation mechanisms; Spain will reallocate 50 per cent of the SDR it received in 2021. He also said that contingency clauses in debt contracts should go beyond covering natural disasters to include other crises, enabling a better response to food and health emergencies in low- and middle-income countries.

The representative of [Kiribati](#) said: "Kiribati stands as a testament to both the vulnerability and resilience of our planet." As an atoll nation, it is on the front line of the climate crisis, facing threats from rising sea levels, extreme weather events and ocean acidification. All nations, including small island states like Kiribati, must have the tools and resources to participate fully in the global digital economy and to harness technology for the betterment of their people and the planet. Kiribati's 20-year road map promises to transform the country into a healthy, wealthy and peaceful nation by 2036, with a focus on sustainable economic growth based on fisheries and tourism, quality education, healthcare and environmental preservation. "Sustainable practices in key sectors such as fisheries, agriculture and renewable energy are critical for our nation's future," he emphasized, calling on "our UN family to collaborate with us in promoting these practices" so that economic development today does not compromise the well-being of future generations.

The representative of [Syria](#) said the Summit provides the opportunity for stocktaking of common work and to strengthen friendly relations among States. The ongoing conflict in the Arab region represents a grave violation of international humanitarian law and all civilized norms and values. There is therefore a need for concerted global efforts to put an end to the occupation of these territories. He said that the future hoped for "should witness a radical change" and requires some Western countries to abandon the colonization ideologies of the past as well as hegemonic aspirations. The Syrian people are determined to move forward and build their future without external deterrence, even as they hope for the rule of law to be upheld at the international level, void of unilateral coercive measures. He joined other States to call for reforms of international financial institutions to address global debt crises and provide support and ODA to implement the 2030 Agenda.

The representative of the [World Bank](#) said that the challenges of climate change, conflict and economic instability are intensifying. Yet, humanity is faced with unprecedented opportunities, such as advances in finance, technology and governance, which open the possibility of a sustainable, equitable future. The pressing question, he said, is "how do we harness these tools effectively to address and rise above these challenges?" In this context, he spotlighted the International Development Association (IDA) which multiplies donors' contributions, channelling resources towards health systems, infrastructures and job creation. As such, it directly contributes to poverty reduction and climate change mitigation. For example, it aims to provide electricity to 300 million people in Africa by 2030, he said, noting that electricity is foundational; without it, progress and healthcare, education and employment remain unattainable.

GABRIEL BORIC FONT, [President of Chile](#), stressing the importance of transparency in public life, said: "There is a feeling of unease running around the world." Noting the growing consensus that the wealth created in the world must be distributed equally between Member States and within States, he said solving the climate crisis must be prioritized. "It is very worrisome that we all come here to repeat the same words again and again," without understanding the urgency of the commitments being made, he said. Institutions need to change, he underscored, noting that the Organization was made for a world that does not exist anymore. Demanding that the rules need to change to adapt to the contemporary world, he asked: if Member States cannot change the United Nations, how can they expect their own people to change?

MOHAMED IRFAAN ALI, [President of Guyana](#), said the international community must move from "ambition to action" after adopting the Pact. "Actions that create an ecosystem of harmony between the environment, people, planet and technology. But most of all that promote human dignity," he added. Poverty, a constant for hundreds of millions of people for many generations, must end and the international community must provide the \$300 to \$500 billion needed to transform the global food system, including for technology transfer, insurance for farmers, access to finance and fair-trade rules. The digital divide must be addressed as AI is used as a force for good that benefits all. The international community must work to create a fair and just world that includes all people. "No region, no country or no group must be left behind," he said. The future must address the needs of women and girls, he said, including the more than 340 million women and girls projected to live in poverty by 2030; the 110 million young women and girls projected to remain out of school by 2030; and the 245 million women and girls that will experience sexual and gender-based violence by 2030.

MASOUD PEZESHKIAN, [President of Iran](#), said that achieving peace and development requires attention to nations' development priorities and cultural nuances, adherence to the principles of fairness and solidarity and the fulfilment of developed countries' commitments to developing ones. Emphasizing that unilateral sanctions hinder progress towards the SDGs, he stressed that these "must be addressed in any document preparing for the future". Additionally, the digital divide between the Global North and South must be addressed, particularly

through the transfer of new technology, capacity-building and the removal of barriers. Calling for a world free from nuclear weapons and a Middle East free from weapons of mass destruction, he said that his country – “as a victim of terrorism” – has always been at the forefront of the fight against this “vile phenomenon” and stands ready to cooperate with countries “genuinely seeking to combat terrorism”. He added that, in a world where civilians in Gaza are killed, State-sponsored terrorism targets children and women and genocide and assassination are supported, “no document will guarantee peace and development”.

SANTIAGO PEÑA PALACIOS, [President of Paraguay](#), said the principle of equity should be the fundamental pillar of the multinational system. Recalling that “might does not make right”, he spoke in defence of countries such as Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, which have the full right to be respected. The future should be built on democracy and respect for human rights, he emphasized, noting his country's history is peppered with dictatorships and authoritarians. Pointing out that multilateralism has serious shortcomings, he said measures to address climate change should not punish the smallest countries but strengthen them. Paraguay has 100 per cent clean green renewable energy and is showing the path ahead. Noting that the Pact for the Future lacks agreement on some substantive aspects, he said that the non-binding document will be aligned with his country's national legislation.

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYI, [President of Ukraine](#), said a small group of seven accomplices led by the Russian Federation always work in concert to oppose any global initiative that is in consonance with the tenets of the UN Charter; and this is publicly and obviously visible. Thanking several countries for their respective roles towards the actualization of the Summit and the Pact for the Future, he expressed joy that the world now hears a united voice from Africa on global efforts. Highlighting the achievements of the previous peace summit on his country as well as optimism for the coming one, he anticipated an overcoming of the destructiveness of the Russian Federation and vowed to hold that country accountable for its infractions. He invited the global community to persist in its efforts to oppose the aggression, announcing that “Putin has stolen much already, but he will never steal the world's future”.

LUIS RODOLFO ABINADER CORONA, [President of the Dominican Republic](#), underscored the need to decarbonize the economy to tackle the climate crisis, noting that small countries like his tend to have a limited impact except in cases when the main greenhouse gas producers contribute proportionately to their resources and impact. Also, to fully harness the potential of AI, it must be accessible and inclusive to all within the context of ethical and digital sovereignty, enabling the transformation of manufacturing and health. “We are seeing in real-time the suffering of hundreds of thousands of people who are suffering disproportionate and unjustified violence for which we are responsible,” he said, noting the need to redesign the norms underpinning international institutions so that they can fulfil their fundamental objectives: safeguarding international peace and security. “The future is here – it is our present,” he declared, citing the Pact as an opportunity to redefine a fairer, equitable and sustainable future in which anyone can prosper in peace and dignity, and harmony with the environment.

MOKGWEETSI ERIC KEABETSE MASISI, [President of Botswana](#), stressing the need for inclusivity and multilateralism, welcomed the adoption of the Pact for the Future and its annexes. Development financing is crucial to achieving the goals outlined in those documents, he said, adding that for countries such as his, the importance of poverty eradication in all its forms cannot be emphasized enough. Therefore, it is essential to reform the international financial architecture and close the digital gap. Also highlighting the need to reform the Security Council and revitalize the General Assembly, he reiterated the need for a female candidate for the Secretary-General position. The Pact acknowledges that the international community has not done enough on the gender equality front, he said, adding that his Government has made this a priority in its appointments.

CHEIKH EL GHAZOUANI, [President of Mauritania](#), said the Summit is a way for the international community to face the many contemporary challenges of today's world, among them eradicating poverty, increasing global food security, restoring the environmental balance and creating peace. The slow pace towards achieving the Global Goals will impact people's future living conditions. While Africa has achieved tremendous progress, more work is needed for it to realize the 2030 Agenda. For its part, Mauritania has made efforts to fight poverty, reduce violence and ensure Africa's economic integration. Yet the results are not up to the needed standards, and gains have been reduced by wars, climate change and imbalances in international governmental systems. The international community must devise a common agenda to implement the Global Goals and ensure multilateral cooperation, he stressed. As Chair of the African Union, Mauritania welcomes the Pact for the Future and supports Council reform to ensure the continent can have a voice in the international agenda.

MOHAMED YOUNIS A MENFI, [President of the Presidential Council of Libya](#), said that his country works to uphold its international and regional role, reinforcing dialogue and cooperation to face common challenges such as climate change, immigration and terrorism. Libya's geographic location as a transit country “makes us cognizant of the challenge of unregulated migration”, he stated, underlining the need for international cooperation to address the root causes of that phenomenon. This includes promoting development in relevant countries in line with the principles of the Summit of the Future, the primary objective of which is to “build a future where everyone has equal opportunities”, he noted. Therefore, nations must work together to overcome regional disagreements. “Cooperation between countries is not an option – it is a necessity to obtain sustainable development and social justice,” he stressed. Urging those present to guarantee that decisions made today afford a sustainable future for upcoming generations, he added that “we can no longer go on exploiting natural resources in an irresponsible way”.

GUSTAVO PETRO URREGO, [President of Colombia](#), recalled that Stephen Hawking, the famous physicist, had warned that artificial intelligence and the climate crisis could potentially lead to human extinction. Highlighting the interlinkage between the two, he said the move to AI poses potential risks for humanity, including a loss of reference to reality and, with increased productivity, the loss of hundreds of millions of jobs, as well as increased energy consumption contributing to the climate crisis. Presenting an alternative future, he said an immediate move toward clean energy and the transformation of productivity to allow societies and people free time could unlock other keys to development. “My vision for the future therefore would lead us to the opposite of what Stephen Hawking saw as threats,” he said, pointing to a global democracy, which would plan the building of clean energy around the world, enable growth and allow artificial intelligence to elevate productivity for emancipated workers, allowing them free time, greater wealth and happiness.

BASSIROU DIOMAYE DIAKHAR FAYE, [President of Senegal](#), said the future envisaged can only be attained in pursuit of multilateral cooperation that caters to the interests of all parties. He submitted further that this future cannot be based on the current context of geopolitical tensions, inequality and the climate crisis. Highlighting the constraints of the global financial architecture and its inherent limitations to sustainable development, he said it is “essential that we attack the vicious cycle of debt” and called for urgent reform to conditions of credit access as well as easing of debt policies. He nevertheless commended the Group of 20 (G20) for giving the African Union permanent membership and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) a third seat on its Executive Board, calling for more to be done for greater representation of the continent. The SDGs relaunch plan requires urgent implementation, just as more investment needs to be made into digital infrastructure. He called on Member States to provide young people with “the means to learn, succeed and flourish”, adding that “they must be at the heart of our activities and be involved in management and decision-making as drivers of peace and development”.

PRITHVIRAJ SING ROOPUN, [President of Mauritius](#), said that while “we find ourselves in an era of unprecedented potential”, countries are grappling with challenges that “threaten to unravel the very fabric of our society”. Climate-induced calamities, conflicts, the scourge of poverty and hunger, and epidemics are not isolated occurrences. The Pact for the Future, he said, is “a solemn promise to generations yet unborn that we – the stewards of today – will not falter in our duty to safeguard their inheritance”. As such, it must serve as the cornerstone for building a more equitable, sustainable and resilient world. Noting that small island developing States stand as “sentinels of climate change”, he said their challenges are a microcosm of the global struggle against climate emergency and economic fragility. “As the tides rise along our shores, so too must our collective resolve to address these existential threats,” he stated.

RATU WILIAME MAIVALILI KATONIVERE, [President of Fiji](#), said: "Tomorrow it will be our children, their children and succeeding generations who will pay the price of our inaction." The international community must recalibrate cooperation and reform the multilateral system, he said, urging delegates to choose peace over conflict. "We must respect and protect our environment and its resources, on land, in the sea and in the air," he said, adding "we must trust each other" because trust is the foundation of strong partnerships. "We must be true to our word," he underscored.

XAVIER ESPOT ZAMORA, [Head of Government of Andorra](#), said the world is at a decisive moment in history and must create a just and inclusive future for humanity. Responsible leadership is crucial to overcome the global challenges that jeopardize future generations and leaders must govern with greater integrity and empathy. Andorra is committed to the Pact for the Future. "It is urgent that the international community send a message to all citizens that multilateralism is the best and only tool to address international challenges," he said, adding that some challenges cannot be overcome unilaterally. The most urgent, climate change, requires immediate action with a transition to a green economy. The digital revolution must be managed ethically and ensure that no countries or citizens are left behind. He also stressed the need to create ethical and legal frameworks to protect the privacy and human rights of citizens, especially children. International security mechanisms must be updated and multilateralism must be strengthened. "Only global diplomacy and multilateralism can lead to peace," he added.

SIAOSI 'OFAKIVAHAFOLAU SOVALENI, [Prime Minister of Tonga](#), speaking for the [Pacific Islands Forum](#), recalled that the Forum launched its 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent in 2022. While the Strategy offers a vision of peace, security, social inclusion and prosperity, he stressed that "vision alone does not suffice". Thus, the Forum's member States have committed to building common resilience and prosperity amid the threats posed by climate change, geopolitical tension and ever-growing economic disparity. Turning to Security Council reform, he said that this must "encompass the security challenges of the twenty-first century and beyond" and include the voices of small island developing States, who have long sounded the alarm over climate change. "What was once a threat has now become a crisis," he underscored, calling for urgent global action to limit warming to 1.5°C, to fulfil commitments to help vulnerable countries adapt and to reform international financial institutions to "reflect the realities of today".

AMADOU OURY BAH, [Prime Minister and Head of Government of Guinea](#), expressed hope that international financing mechanisms will be strengthened to enable all nations, particularly the most vulnerable, to progress towards sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth. He underscored the importance of preserving the environment, particularly sensitive ecosystems, such as the Fouta Djallon massif. "This site, which is a genuine watershed for all of West Africa, is vital to the ecological balance of our region, which affects 15 States," he emphasized. "Protecting it is not just a national issue, but a collective responsibility," he added. He reiterated his country's commitment to the inclusion of the Fouta Djallon massif in the UNESCO World Heritage List to ensure conservation of the site for present and future generations, to strengthen global efforts in sustainable development and to anticipate and prevent water-related conflicts.

LESLIE VOLTAIRE, [Adviser to the President of the Transitional Presidential Council of Haiti](#), described the Summit as a critical moment of building a shared future on the principles of equality and justice, with the Pact not just being a historic occurrence but also a renewed opportunity to strengthen international structures, just as the Summit presents a window to revitalize the UN system. He called for reform of the global financial architecture, labelling it crucial to propel least developed countries towards sustainable development. Participation of young people, he continued, is essential to ensure lasting peace and development with their vast experience on different areas, including climate change. "We will make sure that future generations do not bear the burden of the past", he promised, while calling on the international community to urgently assist his country with its crises and several challenges through foreign direct investment and genuine multilateralism.

MOHAMMAD MUSTAFA, [Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Palestine](#), said his country, while striving to play a positive role in response to global challenges, is burdened by Israel's illegal occupation and aggressions in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem. "As I speak before you, our people in Gaza are enduring one of the darkest chapters in modern history," he said, stressing that Israel's genocidal war has caused unprecedented loss and suffering and humanitarian catastrophe. Concurrently, the people in the West Bank continue to face systematic threats driven by the escalating settlers' violence, military raids, movement restrictions and financial siege withholding of Palestinian tax revenues. All of this threatens the future of the Palestinian people, he said, urging the international community to stop the Israeli aggression and bring an end to its illegal occupation.

FILIP IVANOVIĆ, [Deputy Prime Minister of Montenegro](#), stressing that reforming institutions is crucial, highlighted the need for Council reform, revitalization of the Assembly and enhancing cooperation with regional organizations and the private sector. The Pact and its annexes can pave the way to a brighter future, he said, adding that it is vital to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and mobilize resources for least developed countries. His country adopted a strategy for national development and presented two voluntary national reviews on the 2030 Agenda's implementation. As a candidate country for membership into the European Union, Montenegro values the synergy between the Union's agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. Technology must serve the best interests of humanity, he said, adding that science can be of great use in policymaking.

AZIZ AKHANNOUCH, [Head of Government of Morocco](#), said the Summit is being held amidst complex world challenges and world leaders can renew their commitment to create a new dynamism in multilateralism that creates a better future for all. Morocco is committed to the Pact and creating peace and development, which is essential for progress. "A global approach based on mutual respect and dialogue is necessary," he said, adding that multilateralism must be strengthened through a genuine desire to work together. Social and political development requires the reform of institutions. Africa must be placed at the heart of all work taking place at the United Nations, and the continent must be supported to transform its challenges into opportunities for growth, he stressed. He also called for transforming commitments into tangible actions that deal with climate change and poverty, eradicate food insecurity and forge peace through renewed political will.

IAN BORG, [Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta](#), urged those present to turn climate and environmental challenges into opportunities for a "cleaner, greener world" by scaling-up renewable energy, transitioning away from fossil fuels and achieving net-zero targets. Further, the international community must work to ensure the ocean's health, sustainability and resilience and to address sea-level rise, which disproportionately impacts small island developing States. And, in an era of globalization and rapid change, Governments should create enabling environments for collaboration and dynamism while embracing the power of multistakeholder action. The Pact "acknowledges that children are very much our present", he went on to say, urging efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger and "put more children in schools". There is also a need to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights and fundamental freedoms of "every person on this planet", reduce inequality and leave no one behind, he stressed, adding: "Together, we are stronger."

VIVIAN BALAKRISHNAN, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore](#), said: "We must all recommit ourselves to peaceful resolution of disputes through diplomacy." A world wherein sovereignty, territorial integrity and international law is being eroded will be a very dangerous one for current and future generations, he warned. Noting Singapore's adoption of the groundbreaking Global Digital Compact, he said that common rules to unlock the transformative potential of digital technologies must be established, and risks mitigated. Further, as more than two thirds of the UN's targets for sustainable development can benefit directly from digital innovations, Singapore has worked with Rwanda to launch an AI Playbook for Small States, which, together with its capacity-building efforts under the Digital Forum of Small States, will empower Singapore to leverage AI for public good. Noting the Declaration on Future Generations' emphasis on youth engagement, he said: "We must ensure that the policies we make today are future-ready to build a better world for successive generations."

ARNOLDO RICARDO ANDRÉ TINOCO, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica](#), describing the Pact for the Future as an "urgent call to collective action", exhorted on the need to exalt cooperation over competition with accompanying investment in same. He expressed disappointment over the lack of progress in nuclear disarmament, particularly the Pact's non-mention of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, but welcomed its emphasis on climate action and biodiversity conservation, urging States to speed up compliance with relevant climate treaties. His country welcomes the establishment of governing frameworks on artificial intelligence, believing that the United Nations can and must develop international consensus to address related challenges. It is time for urgent conversations for a fairer and more representative global financial architecture, he proclaimed, and hoped that by the century's end, women and young people will be equitably involved in making decisions on their future.

AMERY BROWNE, [Minister for Foreign and CARICOM Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago](#), said that to achieve sustainable development, it is vital to ensure that all States are on a level playing field and those in particularly unique circumstances are awarded the necessary support. To this end, he advocated for reforming international financial architecture, emphasizing that the multidimensional vulnerability index should guide ODA. Voicing regret that the international community is failing to maintain international peace and security, he stressed that the unprecedented escalation in the number and scale of conflicts contradicts the very purpose for which the UN was built. "We must act boldly and decisively to bring an end to these conflicts and achieve sustainable peace for all," he stated. On the ease of access to illegal firearms in the Caribbean countries – which continues to harm their societies "with unacceptable consequences" – he called for better cooperation among national, regional and global stakeholders to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

JEYHUN AZIZ OGLU BAYRAMOV, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan](#), said the world is at a crucial crossroads and the Summit can help world leaders face these challenges and bridge the gaps between peoples. Azerbaijan upholds the UN Charter and international law, which must be applied without reserve. With the world halfway towards the target date for achieving the 2030 Agenda, Azerbaijan supports the Secretary-General to make the achievement of the 17 Global Goals a priority and has done so at the national level through a collaborative process that includes women and youth. Ensuring people's livelihoods and revitalizing communities is crucial, he stressed. As host of upcoming twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29), Azerbaijan will spare no effort to collaborate with developed and developing countries, as doing so is a moral duty. Azerbaijan has been working with all stakeholders to develop strategies that will create new goals for climate financing, he noted.

CELINDA SOSA LUNDA, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bolivia](#), observed that humanity and the planet are facing the multidimensional problems of capitalism, which presents the possibility of all of humankind collapsing. The Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact are therefore important instruments to help humanity forge its way into the future. It is important, though, that the global community recognize that the SDGs can no longer be attained by 2030, she noted, pointing, however, that the Pact will help speed up the journey thereto. Highlighting that equity in global governance is key for future progress and involves deep-rooted reform of the UN and other global bodies, she said the commitments in the Pact guarantee common but differentiated responsibilities for all. "We must build a development model based on respect for Mother Earth", she urged, calling for building societies' capacity through investment in women and children.

DAVID LAMMY, [Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom](#), said with more conflicts than at any time since 1945 – costing the global economy over \$900 billion and creating the most refugees and displaced people on record – "we cannot ignore the challenges we face". With geopolitical tensions rising, progress against the SDGs stalling, and trust in multilateralism faltering, the Pact for the Future offers a chance for States to show responsible global leadership. Calling for greater collective efforts to prevent and end conflict, he underscored the need to uphold Ukraine's sovereignty, urge an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon and support an end to the fighting in Sudan. "Action on conflict, climate and poverty, delivered by a reformed multilateral system: this is the path to peace and prosperity on a liveable planet," he stated.

ANTONY J. BLINKEN, [Secretary of State of the United States](#), said the Summit will help support, reform and revitalize the United Nations and enable the Organization to respond to global shocks, such as the pandemic, that are increasing because of the changing climate. The United States aims to ensure human rights are respected, including online. He supported Council reform so the world can be better represented – including two permanent seats for Africa – and for negotiations to begin immediately. While the Pact for the Future does not include every needed reform, it is an important step and helps advance the goals of many States, he stressed. He supported the African Union joining the G20. It is one thing to revitalize the United Nations, it is another to change its core principles, he said, stressing: "In this Pact, reform has a place and revisionism has no place." The United States is committed to a collective effort. "We are better off when working together with a common system," he said. He added that no Member State has the right to redraw borders.

METTE FREDERIKSEN, [Prime Minister of Denmark](#), recounting the brutal and tragic wars around the world and warned that the "decisions we make today will define the future for generations to come", adding that, beyond being a great example of successful multilateral cooperation, it is significant that the Pact for the Future was adopted by consensus. There is a need for a global system that promotes solidarity and fair representation, especially of African countries. The world must face a difficult truth, she continued: that the existing international financial architecture is outdated and cannot respond to current challenges. There is therefore a need for reform so that finance can be mobilized as needed and to scale. She announced a 40 per cent increase in her country's contribution to the International Development Association and promised that its term on the Security Council beginning in 2025 will promote a more effective organ.

JEAN-NOËL BARROT, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of France](#), noting his country's work to ensure that the Pact for the Future lives up to Member States' expectations on Council reform, called for an expansion in the two membership categories and an increased presence for Africa, including among the permanent members. France also has a joint initiative with Mexico to limit the veto in the case of mass atrocities, he said, which is already supported by 106 States from every region of the world. "We must ensure that peace operations, which have changed significantly, are able to respond to new challenges," he said, commending the work of the Blue Helmets. Recalling the recent Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon, he called upon parties and their allies to de-escalate and avoid a regional conflagration. France will continue to condemn the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine and demand peace. It will continue to demand the release of all hostages and a ceasefire in Gaza. Together with its partners, France will continue its initiative to support Sudan, he added.

REXON RAMOFAFIA, Minister for National Planning and Development Coordination of the [Solomon Islands](#), said that multilateralism and the international financial architecture are out of touch with today's realities. Noting his country's relatively small economy and burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, he said it is off-track against the SDGs. Calling for meaningful partnership, he said climate change remains a dividing issue for the Solomon Islands and the Pacific region. Noting that technology and digital transformation will save the world's future, he underlined the need to bridge the digital divide.

ELMER SCHIALER SALCEDO, [Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru](#), said the world stands at a time of global transformation marked by unprecedented challenges which must be overcome to forge a more sustainable future for all. A new global governance that is more inclusive and equitable is needed. Peru has been working to end social divides through ambitious national and collective actions. An important outcome of this summit is to forge international cooperation and help middle-income countries, in which pockets of poverty and exclusion still exist. Peru believes it is crucial to build a global governance system that transforms the world. The Pact is a tool that must respect the sovereignty of States and be based on mutual respect and integrity. The Pact provides a platform to help nations combat poverty, protect the environment and create a more equitable world order.

PAULO RANGEL, [Minister for State and Foreign Affairs of Portugal](#), said his country participated fully in the deliberations leading to the Pact for the Future to show its commitment to sustainable development and human rights and is committed to seek solutions for global problems while maintaining these ambitions. Portugal supports good governance of the world, sane digital usage and safe deployment of science and technology. It supports sustainable management, including at the UN Ocean Conference, particularly for small island nations. Concerned that the geopolitical crises in the world affect the confidence of citizens in such regions, he pointed out that the "challenges faced today do not know borders". Portugal therefore has chosen the path of collective action, multilateralism, peace dialogue and an unwavering commitment to the future for all, he said.

KHAWAJA MUHAMMAD ASIF, [Federal Minister for Defence of Pakistan](#), stressing that the Pact will be transformative only if the international community translates its commitments into reality, called for the fulfilment of long-standing ODA commitments and implementation of the Secretary-General's stimulus proposal. It is equally vital to lower borrowing costs for developing countries, improve their representation in international financial institutions and review the sovereign debt architecture to make it more equitable. Also stressing the need for an equitable international tax regime, he said the UN, by virtue of its universal membership and mandate, remains an indispensable platform to ensure implementation of these commitments. Bridging the digital divide is key for an equitable future, he said, adding that the international community must not only break the North-South divide, but also prevent "an East-West fragmentation of the digital space".

BAKARY BADJIE, [Minister for Youth and Sport of Gambia](#), said that the theme of "multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow" is particularly relevant, as the world – especially the Global South – grapples with persistent, existential challenges such as the ongoing crises in Ukraine, Gaza, the Sahel and elsewhere. As a developing country, Gambia is concerned about the disproportionate impact of global challenges on small countries – especially the lingering negative socioeconomic dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Such challenges continue to exacerbate existing inequalities – pushing millions into poverty – and bold actions and significant resources are required to tackle them. He also emphasized that youth continue to face a "structural shortage of decent employment opportunities, compounded by global economic uncertainty, making it challenging for Governments to tap into their potential". He therefore called for holistic, multilateral cooperation to ensure that the SDGs are "achievable in this decade".

ADRIANA MIRA, [Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador](#), said the Summit presents the international community an opportunity to increase trust within itself, adding that, because many countries in the Global South are offering visions of development based on their reality, El Salvador is not alone in this regard. Present generations, she continued, are increasingly concerned about existing problems and how to navigate into the future. Her country is now the safest territory in the Western Hemisphere and, aware of the potential of technological disruption, is working towards transforming into the region's technological hub. She therefore expressed commitment to eliminate the digital divide by increasing access to the Internet as made possible in El Salvador's partnership with Google. These seeds promise a better future for all, she assured, further promising continued investment in the youth. "Together we will achieve the goals that we identify today for a better future," she concluded.

The representative of the [International Criminal Police Organization](#) (INTERPOL) said that it launched in 2017 the Global Policing Goals, which offer a blueprint for law enforcement to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Later this year, the General Assembly will seek to adopt the fourth review of its resolution on the cooperation between INTERPOL and the United Nations, he added. No country and no organization can act on its own in achieving the objectives of the SDGs. "Criminal networks are being built around the world. Ties are being created; actions coordinated. To counter them, we need to be more innovative and more agile," he emphasized. INTERPOL stands ready to continue building with Member States, regional and global partners a global security architecture that avoids siloes and ensures inclusivity of information, of networks and of access to technology and one that prevents gaps and loss of critical information.

The representative of the [International Institute for Democracy & Electoral Assistance](#), noting that he has two children, said "the future has faces". Stressing that he wants them to live in a world where women are not treated as second-class citizens, he said that if the Pact does not result in a "fundamental reform of capitalism" to make it fairer so that political processes are not hijacked by the obscenely rich, "we are wasting our time". Stressing that democracy is the only political system that fully respects civil, political, social and economic rights, he said it is "the best defense against the emergence of the killing fields in Ukraine and the Middle East, in Sudan and Myanmar".

The representative of the [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization](#) stressed that there can be "no viable future" when more than 250 million people "are still deprived of the fundamental right to education". He therefore underscored the need to achieve universal access to learning – particularly for girls – and to strengthen teacher training and access to digital learning technology. Further, it is necessary to promote international scientific cooperation, in line with UNESCO's recommendations on open science, as well as the transfer of technology so that all talents can flourish and all risks are managed responsibly. Also emphasizing that culture is a "common good", he said that World Heritage Sites "testify to the richness of human history and the beauty of nature" and are "essential" for local populations exposed to the risks posed by climate change, illicit trafficking and tourism.

The representative of the [International Atomic Energy Agency](#) (IAEA), recalling the saying that "to predict the future, we should build it", said the Pact for the Future is doing just that; likewise his organization, in preventing the addition of more nuclear weapons to existing ones through its programmes like Race of Hope and Atoms for Food in places where food is scarce. The IAEA is also predicting and building the future by protecting the oceans through the Nuclear Technology for Controlling Plastic Pollution. He noted that the Pact adopted requires concrete instruments to be materialized, adding that the IAEA is "an instrument for all the lofty goals and ideas adopted here"; and the Agency will continue doing just that, he assured.

The representative of the [Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS](#) recalled that over 25 years ago, when Governments came together with civil society and the private sector to fight this disease, they set up programmes and targets to work together. Today almost 31 million people living with HIV around the world are living healthy lives – the AIDS response demonstrates that global solidarity and shared responsibility is key to success. Equally importantly, it shows that the benefits of scientific development must be shared by all countries, and that human rights must be centred in all action plans. Stressing the importance of fighting stigma and sharing financial resources, she added: "We have done this before" and can do it again.

The representative of the [International Committee of the Red Cross](#) (ICRC) noted that 2024 marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions, which every State has committed to respect – and ensure respect for – "both in word and in deed". International humanitarian law, he said, requires that fighting parties only attack military targets, take all precautions to minimize harm to civilians "and then actually do so". Further, parties to armed conflict must allow and facilitate the passage of humanitarian relief, but he pointed to a reality "where millions in war zones are left without basic humanitarian supplies due to a lack of humanitarian presence". Stressing that a path to a brighter future is available – one "lit by the Geneva Conventions" – he urged: "Let's walk it together."

The representative of the [League of Arab States](#), observing that "we are writing the future today", said the Summit must deliver a strong message that future generations must live void of hunger and threats. He underscored the importance of joint international action for climate change and socioeconomic gaps between regions, the debt crises, and challenges of new technologies, which can be addressed through multilateralism. The international community must acknowledge that sources of tension have expanded with the current condition throwing it into a period of paralysis. He bemoaned the fact that the Security Council has been unable to check Israel's aggression for the past months.

The representative of [UN-Habitat](#) said that "it is in our cities and towns where two thirds of the people in the world are projected to live by 2050". This shift towards urbanization is driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, better access to services and, increasingly, by involuntary displacement, disasters and conflict. Combined with the overall growth of the world's population, this could add another half a billion people to cities every five years. Stressing the importance of ensuring safe and affordable housing for all, she said it is vital to support developing countries to plan for healthy, accessible, resilient and sustainable cities. Climate and disaster risks can be effectively managed in well-planned cities, she said, urging States to work with local and regional Governments to ensure this.

The representative of the [Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean](#) (ECLAC), pointing out that "topics that will be important for the future are already important", said that, unfortunately, societies "tend to live in the short-term". Nevertheless, the Pact is a major step in the right direction to restore a multilateral system that was designed 60 years ago and requires urgent reform. For its part, ECLAC works to strengthen proactive governance in countries in the region, and it has created parliamentary commissions for the future – not only to discuss the nature of solutions, but how to achieve them. He added that Latin American and Caribbean countries will gather in Peru in October to discuss regional implementation of the Summit's recommendations.

The representative of the [International Parliamentary Union](#) (IPU), noting that "no calling is too big for those who are willing and determined to work together", welcomed the contribution of parliaments through the IPU in supporting resolutions of the Summit. She looked forward to work with Member States to find ways to engage parliaments to become more aware of deliberations under way for increased involvement. The IPU is making the United Nations and multilateralism stronger through parliaments. Because people everywhere expect change, "this is the time, this is the place to make that happen", she said.

The representative of the [International Fund for Agricultural Development](#) (IFAD) pointed out that since the establishment of the United Nations, the prevalence of hunger has dropped from two thirds of the world's population to one tenth. However, progress has stalled lately and it is crucial to achieve the 2030 Agenda's goal of leaving no one behind by including the people living in rural areas. "Half of our food comes from small farms," he pointed out, but poverty remains concentrated in rural areas. These regions must become the frontlines in the fight against hunger and poverty and climate change. "We need more than financing," he said, calling for targeted interventions that reach the people and countries that are most in need.

The representative of the [International Organization of La Francophonie](#) (OIF), urging work towards a reinvigorated multilateralism, called on the international community to re-establish the values of solidarity, equity and respect for diversity. Further, it is essential to make development opportunities more equal and sustainable. Turning to peacekeeping, she underlined the need to promote multilingual and intercultural skills, which are "drivers of efficiency in the implementation of the complex mandates of peacekeeping operations". Additionally, she welcomed consensus on the need to honour, preserve and promote cultural and linguistic diversity to benefit future generations.

A representative of the [Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf](#) said the Council stands ready to address current challenges and create effective multilateral action that can promote sustainable development. Noting that Pact for the Future recognizes the lack of progress on more than 30 per cent of the Global Goals, he said the Council is working to achieve the Goals through each member country's national vision. Partnership is crucial to achieve development and the Council's member States play an important role in helping more than 90 countries develop. He noted the Pact's focus on international law and resolving disputes through peaceful means. He advocated for a solution to the question of Palestine. The international order must be strengthened to benefit future generations, he said, stressing that the Council stands ready to make its contribution in that regard.

The representative of the [United Nations Population Fund](#) (UNFPA), noting that demographic shifts, population growth and migration are reshaping the world, said that "our focus must be on people". Stressing the need to factor population dynamics into development plans, she said that States must invest in human capital and empower women and young people. Individual dignity and human rights are crucial elements, she said, adding that "our 1.9 billion young people have the power to transform the world." States must invest in their leadership potential, she said, adding that leveraging science and data will help the international community prepare for the future.

The representative of the [Digital Cooperation Organization](#) said that the Global Digital Compact lays out a road map for an inclusive, sustainable and secure digital future. However, the "real challenge lies in translating these ambitious goals into actions as we strive to achieve the SDGs", she emphasized. Highlighting the various dimensions of the digital divide – including those relating to artificial intelligence, computing, gender and skills – she said: "Some nations rapidly innovate, while others struggle to keep up." Against that backdrop, she detailed her organization's work, including its launch of its "Digital Economy Navigator" at the Summit – a tool that provides insight into digital performance across 50 countries.

The representative of the [Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture](#) said the world is facing a crucial moment. His organization has existed for 75 years and is the oldest Ibero-American institution yet is not the organization it used to be. Changes were necessary after the global financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic, he said. The organization focuses on expanding public policy attention in education, science and culture in order to improve the lives of citizens. It advocates for the mobilization of financial resources so more money can be spent on education and countries can take advantage of the fourth industrial revolution and the digital opportunities. He stressed the importance of defending human rights and democracy.

The representative of the [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#), noting that science has demonstrated that "we are exceeding planetary limits", said that humans have extinguished the life of many species while leading one fourth of the remaining species to the verge of extinction. The survival of the human species is at stake, she said, while pointing to recent multilateral successes in tackling this, such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the High Seas Treaty, the United Nations agreement on biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction. Calling on the international community to change the relationship between people and nature and transition to a circular global economy, she said young people, Indigenous People and local communities must be involved in decision-making.

The representative of the [United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East](#) (UNRWA) said that the Agency has provided humanitarian and development services for generations of Palestinian refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan for 75 years. "Millions of children have been educated in our schools," he emphasized, noting that UNRWA's education outcomes are "among the best in the region". He stressed that today, however, "our decades-long investment in the future of Palestinian refugees is at risk", stating that 222 Agency staff have been killed and that two thirds of its buildings have been damaged or destroyed. Further, legal efforts are ongoing to evict UNRWA from East Jerusalem, remove its privileges and immunities and designate it as a terrorist organization. "Failing to push back against violations of international humanitarian law and efforts to intimidate and undermine the UN sets a dangerous precedent," he underscored.

A representative of the [United Nations University](#) said the Summit and its Pact mark a defining moment for current and future generations. The future will be defined by the collective commitments made today – to move away from fossil fuels, strengthen the governance of new technologies, build peace and reform the international financial architecture. Science and research will be a critical facilitator of this shift by informing the development of policies and solutions with real impact, she stressed. The United Nations University, through its collaborative research and education, is a source of impartial knowledge, evidence and policy solutions. The institution serves as a bridge to the scientific community and a neutral space to test ideas and build new coalitions around bold policy solutions. "We offer you our expertise and our networks in service of a reinvigorated multilateralism," she said.

The representative of the [Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization](#), cautioning against a return to nuclear weapons testing, asked "what if there's a catastrophic miscalculation or we're just unlucky?" The Treaty is a vital part of the safer future that the Pact for the Future envisions, he said, adding that it is transparent; therefore, "States know that we'll detect any test and fast. We'll know where it has happened." There have been only a handful of nuclear tests this century, he said, noting that this is all the more remarkable because the Treaty has not yet entered into force. Noting reports of enhanced activities at former nuclear test sites and threats of the use of nuclear weapons, he said that ending nuclear testing once and for all should be a priority.

The representative of the [International Trade Centre](#) (ITC) recalled that, when the SDGs were adopted, that moment was "hailed globally as the dawn of a new era for a better, fairer world". Now, too often, it is "easy to fall prey to pessimism", she said. However, spotlighting the small business leaders and States served by the ITC, she said that it is not necessary "to look far to see what a new world could – and should – look like". Women run firms working towards food security and health care, refugees find new ways to support their families through digital tools and young people teach how to safeguard the natural environment while creating new jobs along the way. The ITC, she stressed, will "never shy away from doing the hard work" of ensuring that the Pact "delivers for those who need it most".

The representative of the [United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women](#) (UN-Women) commended the Pact's commitment to bolster women's rights, which is seen through the document. The Pact comes at a crucial time as the world needs to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. The achievement of SDG 5 is an essential part of the world's commitment to gender equality, to women and girls and the achievement of the SDGs. Yet without change and acceleration, it will take 137 years to eradicate extreme poverty among women and girls; 68 years to eradicate child marriage; and 39 years to reach gender parity in Parliaments. Next year commemorates the thirtieth anniversary of the Beijing Conference and its Platform for Action. It remains the most widely endorsed and visionary agenda that upholds women's rights. Real change in the life of women and girls around the world is necessary. It is also time to silence the guns everywhere.

The representative of the [United Nations Children's Fund](#) (UNICEF), noting the sense of accomplishment at this summit, said it is crucial to apply these commitments to domestic policies and budgets. Millions of children are thriving today because of increased access to nutrition and health, but millions of children around the world are suffering due to the negative impact of armed conflict, climate change and persistent poverty. Children will shape the future and their rights must be placed at the centre of collective development efforts, she said. Unfortunately, the international community is not on track to meet the SDGs relating to child rights, she observed, adding that Governments and public financing must work together to invest in children.

The representative of the [Economic Cooperation Organization](#), emphasizing that the world was at a point at which it could "either have a breakthrough or a breakdown", said that the Pact's successful adoption not only highlighted the significant challenges facing humanity, but also made commitments to effectively address them. "In an era where our ability to reach common ground to tackle pressing challenges is getting constrained, cooperative regionalism is the way forward," he stressed. And, while the UN is – and must remain – at the centre of all efforts, work should start at the regional level. Spotlighting his organization's 2025 vision, which aims to boost trade, enhance connectivity, secure the transition to green energy and promote sustainable economic growth, he said that its post-2025 strategy will incorporate the Summit's outcomes.

A representative of the [Universal Postal Union](#), noting that the Summit is a once-in-a-generation opportunity, said there should be a people-based approach involving all generations, among them older people, for global betterment. People are living longer due to advances in health and technology, and this is a success story. Yet policy choices are necessary to invest in an inclusive system that involves older people. The Union was disheartened that the Pact has only one mention of older people and 30 references to youth. She noted that today's youth are tomorrow's older generation, which is the most affected by the digital divide. The Union looks forward to working together with all stakeholders to close that gap.


Closing Remarks

PHILÉMON YANG (Cameroon), [President of the Assembly](#), delivering closing remarks, said that the Pact outlines commitments to accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals. Congratulating Member States for working with focus and solidarity to meet this historic milestone, he said: "The work does not end here. In fact, it begins now." The Pact must propel the international community's collective ability to deliver a more resilient world, he said, adding that stakeholder support and ownership of implementation will be critical.

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