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**Open debate of the Security Council  
on  
“Security, development and the root causes of conflict”  
17 November 2015**

**Intervention by  
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Deputy Permanent Representative, *Chargé d’Affaires a.i.***

Mr. President,

Two months ago Heads of States and Governments pledged to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. This is clearly a noble but interrelated task that needs a lot of stakeholders. The 2030 Agenda also confirms that “There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.”

The implementation of the Agenda requires a fresh look at the relationship of the two areas, the division of labor, and possible fields of convergence between all stakeholders. Three important review processes on peace operations, peacebuilding and Women Peace and Security create an excellent opportunity for the respective organs to move out of their silos.

Hungary therefore, commends the UK Presidency for including this topic on the agenda of the Security Council and welcomes the opportunity to speak on this topic.

The very issue of this relationship has provoked extended debate in the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. The debate was partly put to rest by an innovative solution that proposed to put less emphasis on “what peace and security can do for development” and utilize a reverse approach. From then on, the co-chairs and stakeholders of the OWG focused on “what kind of development can promote peace and security”.

This is how Goal 16 but also other interrelated elements, requiring gender equality, fight against inequality, discrimination, women’s empowerment, the principle of inclusivity and “leave no one behind”, took shape and later commanded strong support for Agenda 2030.

Goal 16 and related goals are therefore not about peace and security; they are much more than that. First, they must be seen as the cornerstones for the implementation in the social pillar. Also they are important drivers and enablers for the economic and the environmental pillars.

Agenda 2030, when implemented universally, will reduce tension in, and among, countries, and will ensure that situations, threatening international peace and security, arise less frequently. When implemented sincerely, the Agenda will assist in the fight against terrorism, extremism including its violent forms, and international organized crime, areas where the Council also has to act, albeit, with different tools.

Successful implementation of Agenda 2030 will lighten the load on the Council and assist it in making solutions of conflict situations more robust. This however, does not take away the authority of the Council.

The relationship reconfirmed in the agenda only strengthens the authority, and also the responsibility of the Council. First, the onus is squarely put on the Security Council to find solutions for conflicts, so that affected countries and communities can start their journey towards the implementation of the Agenda.

Second, as conflicts wipe out whatever progress is made in the field of development, the Council must put much more emphasis on prevention.

To ensure that countries will not relapse into conflict, smooth transition is needed between political solutions, humanitarian action and development.

The best example for the need for interaction, but also for the division of labor, could be understood through taking a quick look at the current refugee/migration crisis.

We have to be clear that without putting an end to the conflicts we have no solution for the refugee crisis. This is, first and foremost, the Council's responsibility to find and enforce political solutions. The Council should also take more decisive mitigation measures, providing unhindered humanitarian access, protecting civilians, and bringing perpetrators of atrocity crimes to justice. Inaction by the Council cannot be substituted by others' compassion, or rectified by addressing the humanitarian consequences.

However, while the Council must do the firefighting, only sustainable development is capable of taking care of root causes *that led or contributed to the conflict*.

Moving away from conflicts, human mobility has all kinds of other reasons. **The current migration trends** are symptoms of underlying causes, such as economic hardship, environmental degradation, food and water scarcity, etc. In essence, these root causes are different forms of unsustainability, be it economic, environmental, or social.

In these cases, the implementation of Agenda 2030 is the primary solution, and Council has a supportive role to play in the field of prevention, or if the Agenda is not implemented adequately, and in consequence, situations spiral out of hand.

As Agenda 2030 does not change the authority of any organ as set forth in the Charter, there is no need to reinforce the division lines. The integrated nature of threats will require ever closer cooperation. The agenda creates an impetus for all organs to move out of silos, and work together as never before.

To recognize and cement this understanding, debates like this are quite useful. However, besides changing our narrative, it is the Security Council and other UN organs that ultimately must change the way they operate.

Thank You, Mr. President.