



**Statement by dr. Melita Gabrič, Human Rights Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Slovenia on National action plans to implement the UNGPs:
stepping up Government commitments and action**

UN Business and Human Rights Forum, Geneva, 16 November 2016

Mr. Moderator,

Slovenia welcomes this opportunity to exchange views and share information on the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights.

We are convinced that respect for human rights throughout the entire business cycle, both at national and international levels, is indispensable to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In view of the due diligence non-financial reporting requirements, I am glad to report that the legislative process will be concluded shortly (in keeping with the EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive), which will require large companies to report on their measures against corruption, on their environmental and social impact as well as on their gender diversity policies.

In order to raise awareness and promote the UN Guiding Principles, Slovenia recently organized a national multi-stakeholder Forum on Business and Human Rights. At this occasion, it was reaffirmed that corporate social responsibility and respect for human rights in business enterprises are not solely the conduct expected by the Slovenian society, but also that they are profitable – as all of the leading dozen Slovenian enterprises have social responsibility and respect for human rights included in their corporate policies.

Slovenian government put in place an institutional structure that will be responsible for devising the national action plan for implementing the Guiding Principles. As we are committed to stepping up our efforts to implement the Guiding Principles, we are most interested in hearing about good practices of other member states on devising and implementing National Action Plans.

To this end, we would appreciate any further advice by the distinguished panel and colleagues, especially as regards the modes of organizing the multi-stakeholder consultative processes as well as on including gender perspective into the national action plans.

Thank you.