

Delegation from the Republic of Poland

Position Paper for the Security Council

The topics before the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) are: Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict; and The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security. Aware of International crises the Republic of Poland has the ambition of becoming even more engaged in building and sustaining peace. Furthermore, the Republic of Poland recognizes the threat that droughts, floods hurricanes, etc. pose to International Security and Stability.

I. Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict

To stress the national importance of Peacebuilding, the delegation from the Republic of Poland would like to quote the Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz who said in 2018: “As internal and international security are connected with each other, effective steps aimed at conflict prevention taken at the international level, also improve security at the national level”.

The Republic of Poland has a history of providing aid to developing countries that dates back to the 1970s. The Republic of Poland believes that the best way to build and sustain peace is to establish and strengthen democratic institutions around the world as they are a space for liberty which is a key factor of development and hence stability in the long run. Democracy is a vital condition for securing human rights. Therefore, the Republic of Poland has contributed financial assistance to countless initiatives towards peacebuilding and the improvement of democratic institutions around the world. The object of these initiatives ranges from caring for youth and child victims of conflict, to optimizing the work of police, the administrative and legislative apparatus, supporting preparation and implementation of reforms, organizing government institutions and rebuilding economies in regions of conflict. Since 2006 the Republic of Poland contributes to the UN Peace – building fund with more than 70.000 euros per year.

The Republic of Poland stresses though that the responsibility for preventive measures to mitigating conflict is upon the member states themselves. Underlining the significance of national strategies concerning conflict – prevention the Republic of Poland calls for the improvement and strengthening of state institutions and local administrations in responsible states. Fighting corruption is also a vital step towards building peace and stability. For the future, the Republic of Poland opts to establish development and peacebuilding missions that have an even further long – term vision and strategy. To achieve that, the Republic of Poland sees intensifying efforts oriented towards the exchange of experience and debate of all activities regarding peacebuilding between EU countries as pressingly necessary. This will help make existing funds more effective. The SC can and should also be used as a platform to discuss existing programs and find best practice solutions. The Republic of Poland firmly supports peacebuilding efforts to solve problems that derive from climate change and pose a threat to the wealth and security of nations around the globe. Both climate change and international peace are issues that require a long – term vision and strategy. Therefore the Republic of Poland believes that the SC should integrate youth and their perspective into peacebuilding processes. Politics needs a fine balance between fresh ideas and experience. Creative young people can contribute these fresh ideas. This can be achieved by strengthening youth organizations so that youth voices have a stronger institutional frame. In open

platforms of dialogue, youth organizations could get a closer insight into the work of the SC and share their ideas. Furthermore, the Republic of Poland is open for negotiations with all other delegations attending and is certain that solutions can be found by close cooperation.

II. The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security

The Republic of Poland recognizes the impact of disasters related to climate and climate change. As an example, in 2018 the Republic of Poland fell victim to a drought that cost the Polish economy in total more than 500 million €. A flood in 2010 caused damages of over 2 billion euros to the Republic of Poland. However, the Republic of Poland recognizes that the issue of climate-related disasters causes even bigger damage on the International level. In 2017 alone the material loss due to natural disasters added up to more than 330 billion dollars of which only 140 billion were insured leaving an insurance gap of about 200 billion dollars.

The Republic of Poland believes that two factors are most important in handling climate-related disasters. Firstly, it is crucial to support regions that fell victim to a natural disaster and are in desperate need of immediate help from the international community. Secondly though, as a long – term goal it is at least similarly important to fight the negative effects of climate change regarding natural catastrophes. As the rise of the average temperature leads to the melting of glaciers sea levels will too rise. Estimates say that this rise could amount to almost 20 centimeters in the next 10 years compared to the beginning of the century. By 2050 up to 180 million people around the world could have to migrate due to rising sea levels. This would be a huge threat to International Security. Therefore, the Republic of Poland supports the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that aims to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases globally to minimize the negative effects of Climate Change. Furthermore, the Republic of Poland has ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016. One threat deriving from climate change to International stability and security is desertification. The Republic of Poland supports the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

The Republic of Poland advocates for the intensification of efforts to improve measures of predicting catastrophes. This will effectively protect property and more importantly life and health of countless people. This goes hand in hand with the goal of using technology as a mean of reducing emissions. The National Program for Air Protection passed by the Republic of Poland in 2015 is an example of that. With investments of more than 20 billion euros until 2027 its objective is to firstly finance replacing old heating systems installed in Polish homes and secondly fund research and development in the area of electromobility. In the energy sector, The Republic of Poland aims to reduce CO2 emissions by developing a modern hard coal mining sector. The backbone of this will be innovative technologies around coal. The Republic of Poland is convinced that other delegations have innovative ideas to share with the SC on making the economy of the world more sustainable. Exchange of thoughts is what grows technological advancements exponentially. That is why the Republic of Poland stresses the need for cooperation between experts of different bodies of the UN, universities, institutes, private companies, etc. The Republic of Poland is convinced that a man-made problem has a man-made solution.