



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 25 SEPTEMBER 2015

**UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT TO ADOPT THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GENERAL DEBATE**

**ADDRESS BY H.E. MR. ADRIAN HASLER
PRIME MINISTER OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is a proud moment for the United Nations. By adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, we are crossing the threshold to a new era of international collaboration. We are promising nothing less than a better life for future generations.

And we have reason to be optimistic that we can keep this promise. Indeed, we have come a long way. The Millennium Development Goals have guided our work for the last 15 years. With the 2030 Agenda, we are building on the success of the MDGs, but we have also learned from their weaknesses and designed a blueprint for the future:

- The new Agenda fully recognizes that sustainable development can only be achieved by tackling all of its three dimensions together: economic, social and environmental. We are finally connecting the dots. We will not be able to increase prosperity if we fail to preserve our planet. Our investment in our people will not yield any return if we fail to invest equally in women and men, girls and boys. And we will only achieve our goals if we truly commit to the rule of law and to a new global partnership.
- The goals and targets apply to all States equally. Today, every Member State is publicly committing to create an environment at the national level that will help mobilize domestic resources and private investments for sustainable development. This is a challenging task for all of us – one that will help us overcome outdated categories, such as those between developed and developing countries, or between donors and recipients.

- The Agenda is the result of a fully inclusive process. Member States worked alongside civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders. This may not have resulted in the shortest document possible, but it has resulted in an agenda for *all* people.

Liechtenstein is well prepared. We have made great efforts towards ensuring sustainable development in recent years, both nationally and internationally. Liechtenstein reached and even exceeded the agreed ODA target of 0.7% of its Gross National Income in 2012. We also far exceeded the target of 0.15-0.2% of GNI to be allocated to Least Developed Countries. My Government will continue its commitment to the internationally agreed development targets. I hope that other countries will also do their best to meet the 0.7% target. We focus in particular on long-term development. Our support goes for example to projects on including women in peace processes, on demining farmland and on promoting good governance and rule of law in countries affected by conflict.

Liechtenstein is home to a financial center that fully complies with international standards. It is no haven for illicit financial flows. We have an effective system in place to prevent and detect the transfer of the proceeds of corruption and to freeze and return such assets. Our authorities continue to share their expertise with relevant international programs, such as the UN Global Programme on Money Laundering, the STAR initiative of UNODC and the World Bank. We also support international cooperation in tax matters, based on the principle of a level playing field. Liechtenstein has taken an active part in the OECD's Global Forum and has committed to the early adoption of its new global standard on the Automatic Exchange of Information, to be implemented from 2017 onwards.

Liechtenstein has also been at the forefront of global efforts to protect the planet: We have committed to reducing carbon emissions to 40% of the 1990 levels and submitted early on the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution. We are on a good track: Since 1990, our

population has grown by 25% and our GDP has grown by 140%. Yet, our emissions today are already lower than they were 16 years ago.

The goals and targets we have set for ourselves are highly ambitious. Monitoring their implementation is therefore key to their success. It is of course the primary responsibility of each State to take action – to translate targets into concrete action and to provide financial and non-financial means for their implementation. And it is for each government to account for these measures to their own people. But accountability it is also our *collective* responsibility – because we are all sitting in this same boat called Planet Earth. The chapter on follow-up and review is therefore one of the significant achievements of the 2030 Agenda. The High-level Political Forum will be the centerpiece of this effort at the global level. It will allow us to recognize problems that need to be addressed, to learn from each other and to exchange best practices – with all stakeholders at the table.

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the recent successful conclusion of the Third International Conference for Financing for Development are also proof that multilateralism remains alive and functioning. This should give us hope that we can succeed a third time, when we gather in December in Paris to agree on a new universal climate change agreement. Let us seize this opportunity – for the sake of our people and our planet.

I thank you.