



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

NEW YORK, 15 MARCH 2022

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
66TH SESSION

**SIDE-EVENT: STEM EDUCATION AS A STEPPING STONE
TOWARDS GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE POLICIES**

STATEMENT BY H.E. DOMINIQUE HASLER
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND SPORT

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Special thanks to the esteemed colleagues of Austria, Italy and the United Kingdom for organizing this timely event. Equal access to quality education for all is indispensable in addressing climate change – the greatest challenge of our times. Given its disproportionate impact on women and girls, we must equip them with knowledge and skills necessary to cope with a changing environment and to meaningfully contribute to effective responses and policies. And we must make sure that their voice is heard in all discussions and in decision-making in particular.

Liechtenstein launched in 2017 an experimentation laboratory called pepperMINT – MINT standing for mathematics, information technology, natural sciences and technology, aimed at helping children, and especially girls, deepen their interest and knowledge in STEM disciplines. To this date almost 10'000 children and youth participated in the laboratory. The skills they acquired will be important for the job market of the future, and help achieve economic independence, a strong and informed voice in decision-making processes, and ultimately, intergenerational justice.

I thank you.