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**UNAOC Group of Friends Meeting
on
'Preventing Violent Extremism and Sustaining Peace'**

3 April 2018

**Intervention by
H.E. Ambassador Katalin Annamária Bogyay
Permanent Representative**

Dear High Representative, Excellencies,

We highly appreciate the timely convening of the United Nations Alliance of Civilization Group of Friends Meeting. The topics discussed/to be discussed this morning undoubtedly lie at the heart of the UN's agenda this year.

On Preventing Violent extremism:

- Tackling the global threat of violent extremism requires action and collaboration from the entire international community, although in line with balanced implementation of all pillars of the UN Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, and as set out in the PVE Plan of Action, primary responsibility lies with Member States.
- Hungary has signed the joint statement on the “Principles for UN Global Leadership on Preventing Violent Extremism”, proposed by the UK, and we call on all Member States to do so. With this step, we support the implementation of the Secretary General's Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism through an all-of-UN approach.
- Hungary strongly supports the UN SG's focus on prevention and the use of mediation, also committed to promoting preventive diplomacy as well as building trust and reconciliation, further strengthening the prevention, mediation, dispute resolution and early warning capacities;
- We are looking forward to the forthcoming Global Counter Terrorism Strategy Review and also welcomes the first United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States convened by the Secretary General this June;

- Hungary is strongly committed to fighting against violent extremism and terrorism; we are a steadfast supporter of any form of counter-terrorism and related crimes. We believe that the architectural reform of counter-terrorism efforts inside the UN may generate a more effective appearance towards eliminating all related threats.

On sustaining peace:

- There is no sustaining peace without respecting **human rights** and international humanitarian law. Human rights mechanisms together with the Human Rights Up Front initiative provide useful tools to respond early and effectively to signs of serious violations of human rights that often are early warnings of potential atrocity crimes.
- **Ending the culture of impunity** is also a major contributor to conflict prevention and sustaining peace on national and international levels. Since ensuring accountability for serious crimes helps us to bring about reconciliation, address injustice, promote human rights and build peaceful, stable and resilient societies.
- We recognize sustaining peace requires that human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected, protected and fulfilled. Sustainable peace can only be achieved through comprehensive agreements rooted in broad, deep and durable regional and international partnerships.
- We also need to develop more creative approaches to diplomacy. This includes the continued promotion of women's roles in peace efforts. Women indeed need to be at the forefront of creating and sustaining peace, from the local to the international level, if we want to have any chance of succeeding.
- Furthermore, we strongly believe that we have to encourage the youth to actively participate in peacebuilding, in social justice and reconciliation.

- Hungary as a member of the **Human Rights Council** for the term 2017-2019, one of our priorities is to work towards the prevention of atrocity crimes and to promote already existing tools of the international community that can contribute to effective and timely response.
- Based on our views the **need for the UN** is greater than ever. The UN has a central role to play in preventing conflicts and securing sustaining peace, but it has to be fit for purpose in order to be able to **deliver**.
- Hungary welcomes and supports the vision of the Secretary General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace as expressed in his report presented to the General Assembly on 5 March.

I thank you.