



5th HRC Intersessional Meeting – 19 January 2023

Intervention by Ms. Emily Tufigno, Deputy Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN

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Thank you, Mr. President,

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to deliver these remarks in its national capacity.

Mr. President,

Sustainable Development Goals are the key for the international community to link the three pillars of the United Nations – Human Rights, security, and development. It is our individual and collective responsibility to implement what has been agreed. The SDGs ensure that our citizens' rights are fully respected, that women and men's participation in public life is ensured, and that their private lives are protected.

Malta remains committed to the achievement of the 2030 agenda, both domestically and internationally. Through our bilateral diplomacy, we provide financial and technical assistance to developing countries, and in particular countries in our region and small island developing states. We also believe that the identified targets can only be achieved through the contribution of all segments of society, in particular women, and that promoting and protecting human rights is crucial to a society's socio-economic progress.

Mr. President,

The humanitarian situation in several countries and regions continues to deteriorate. At least 340 million people will be in need this year, a year-to-year increase of 5 million people and a 25 per cent increase of the total from 2022. This situation is a clear and present threat to the achievement of the 2030 agenda, not least as the world emerges from the pandemic.

On our own continent, the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine remains a pressing priority, and we will continue to do our part to defend the principles of the UN Charter against such blatant violations of its principles.

Thank you.