



SLOVENIA

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STATEMENT

BY

**Ms. Petra Langerholc, Minister Plenipotentiary and Legal Adviser at the Permanent
Mission of Slovenia to the United Nations on**

Agenda item 90: Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework

**75th Session of the General Assembly
Sixth Committee**

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Mr. Chairman (Madam Chairperson),

Allow me to begin by expressing Slovenia's appreciation that the item "Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework" is on the 6th Committee's agenda, and by welcoming the Secretary-General's report on the review of regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the UN Charter. The report very helpfully sets out information on the practice of registration and publication of treaties and possible options to review those regulations, taking into account issues identified by Member States.

Mr. Chairman (Madam Chairperson),

Slovenia first generally believes that the item "Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework" should not be confined to discussing the UN treaty registration regulations only, but should be used as a platform for a more general discussion on issues related to treaties and treaty framework, for example withdrawals from treaties and the increasing role of non-treaty instruments that undermine to a certain extent the role of treaties. In this regard, we also support the idea to discuss the role and gather best practices of depositaries. As a depositary of a limited number of treaties, that issue would be of particular interest to us.

In relation to UN treaty registrations, Slovenia notes the fact that there appears to be a significant geographical imbalance in treaty registrations in the past decade, with Eastern European Group representing merely 8 % of all registrations. We believe that this data should be among those factors that encourage further simplification of treaty registration, in particular by using tools that enable online registration. In that regard, we support the idea to enable registration through a customised online tool. That would be of particular use to small states with limited resources for treaty registration purposes.

In relation to Article 1 of the regulations, we welcome the outline of practice of the Secretariat relating to the registration of provisionally applied treaties requested by Mexico. While we recognise that in practice, provisionally applied treaties are being registered based on the internal interpretation of the regulations, we believe that the current text of Article 1 does not provide a sufficiently clear and transparent guidance to States on the registration of such treaties. In our view, Article 1(2) could, in the interest of clarity and transparency, benefit from further clarification by inserting explicit wording on the registration of provisionally applied treaties, taking also into account that certain multilateral treaties such as the so-called commodity agreements refer both to provisional entry into force as well as provisional application.

In relation to the translation of treaties into English and French under Article 12 of the regulations, Slovenia believes that although this may well represent a burden for the UN Secretariat, shifting that burden entirely to the Member States is not the proper solution for that issue. That could discourage Member States from registering treaties, in particular small states with limited resources. On the other hand, the elimination of the requirement to translate treaties into English and French would impair transparency of international law. Considering the above and recognising the importance of the issue of translations and in the interest of finding a solution, we are open for discussion on possible ways forward, including on the basis of suggestions by Member States, outlined in the report.

Let me close by reiterating Slovenia's appreciation of the presence of the item "Strengthening and promoting the international treaty framework" on the 6th Committee's agenda, as well as our full support in maintaining it on the agenda and – as I mentioned before – even expanding it to new issues.

Thank you, Mr Chairman (Madam Chairperson).