

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

Respected initiator of Sri Swami Madhavananda World Peace Council VishwaguruJi Maheshwarananda,

It is my sincere privilege to write this personal address for your respected international audience at the time when I am attending the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015 here in New York. I have joined other world leaders for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and much expected and overall needed Sustainable Development Goals.

Since the topic of this year's United Nations General Assembly is "The United Nations at 70: the road ahead for peace, security and human rights" I see exceptional correlation with the topic of your respected conference, organized at the premises of the United Nations as well, just on the other side of the Globe. Core messages of non-violence, world peace as well as yoga as an instrument for reaching inner tranquillity and leading to outer peace, are inevitably resonating worldwide.

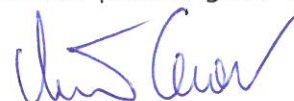
I cannot help thinking that the year 2015 is somehow special. Marking and celebrating the United Nations 70th anniversary and presenting the Sustainable Development Goals made me think even more of our role as leaders of individual countries. I have thought a lot about Slovenia which already was a country of great respect and international recognition and in many sectors a true role-model. However, in recent years some of that particular fame was lost. In this respect I started looking for answers how to re-establish that reputation and how to bring decent life-style back to Slovenian citizens. Not just to a few who are able to afford it. Together with my team we have soon discovered that the answer on that particular question lies not far away from us.

Therefore, respected VishwaguruJi Maheshwaranda, please do allow me to take this opportunity to present your distinguished audience the decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, to be a pilot country among pioneer countries to officially recognize the newly adopted Sustainable Development Goals as the basis for our country's long term development strategy. We are committed to carrying out the mapping of the Sustainable Development Goals and to build a structure that will continue to ensure good governance. Slovenia will strive to become the model country for sustainable development and through that will try to inspire millions of people to follow the path of sustainable development.

I firmly believe that in the times in which we are living and in the world surrounding us the decision we undertook was the only rightful and responsible one.

Respected international audience, I truly wish you a successful conference. The more of us acting responsibly the higher are the chances for our common positive goals to become reality!

Yours sincerely,



dr. Miro Cerar

Prime Minister of the Government of Slovenia