

**Joint Declaration between
the Republic of Slovenia and the Kingdom of Morocco
Rabat, 11th June 2024**

1. In the context of the celebration of the 32th Anniversary of the of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Slovenia and the Kingdom of Morocco, and at the invitation of H. E. Mr. Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, H.E. Ms. Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of European and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, paid an official visit to Rabat on June 11th 2024;
2. During this important visit, the two Ministers praised the excellent bilateral relations between Slovenia and Morocco and exchanged views on international and regional issues of common interest;
3. In this regard, H.E. Ms. Tanja Fajon and H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita expressed their satisfaction with the excellence of the relations between the two countries and reiterated their shared willingness to further strengthen them;
4. Morocco welcomed the decision of Slovenia to open a resident Embassy in Rabat. The Ministers agreed that a reciprocal decision by Morocco to open a resident Embassy in Ljubljana would give further impetus to the cooperation between the two countries;
5. H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita congratulated H.E. Ms. Tanja Fajon on the membership of Slovenia to the UN Security Council for 2024-2025, and appreciated the inclusive approach that Slovenia is bringing to the work of the Security Council and to the relevant priorities of its mandate within this UN body, in favour of the maintenance of international peace and security;
6. The two Ministers agreed on the importance of strengthening political dialogue and reactivating cooperation mechanisms, and they welcomed the political consultations held at the level of director-generals on 26th April, 2024 in Ljubljana;
7. Slovenia welcomes the wide range of reforms carried out by Morocco, under the Leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, for a more open and dynamic Moroccan society and economy, notably through the New Development Model and advanced regionalization, as well as the empowerment of women and sustainable development;
8. H.E. Ms. Tanja Fajon congratulated the Kingdom of Morocco for the success of the 9th United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Global Forum, held in Fez in November 2022, and for the long-standing leadership of His Majesty Mohammed VI, in this domain;
9. Slovenia in opened to further discussions regarding Morocco's proposal in developing cooperation in the field of religious and interreligious dialogue;
10. At the parliamentary cooperation, both sides noted the importance of inter-parliamentary contacts, which play an essential role in strengthening bilateral relations, and welcomed the official visit paid by the President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia to Morocco in November 2022, upon the invitation of the President of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco, and the signing, during the official visit, of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions in the perspective of the visit of the President of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco, to be paid to Ljubljana in December 2024. They also emphasize the need to intensify

parliamentary exchanges between Parliamentary friendship groups set by the parliamentary institutions of the two countries;

11. At the cultural level, the two Ministers stressed the importance of bilateral cooperation in the cultural and academic field for the promotion of human and economic development, as well as for the strengthening of exchanges at intergovernmental and civil society level. Within the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean, they encouraged cooperation between the two Euro-Mediterranean universities, EMUNI in Piran and Euro-Mediterranean University in Fez. They agreed to enhance bilateral and regional academic cooperation in science, research, innovation and blue economy to provide opportunities for the empowerment of youth to the benefit of the entire Mediterranean;
12. The two Ministers stressed, furthermore, the importance of giving a new impetus to the economic cooperation in areas of common interest, mainly those involving high value-added sectors in the two countries. Both sides expressed the wish to share best practices in the fields of energy, environment, logistics, agriculture, automotive industry, green technologies and agreed upon the importance to hold Economic Forums for encouraging exchanges between the economic actors of the two countries. The two ministers welcomed the interest of strengthening cooperation between the Port of Koper and all Moroccan ports, especially with the Port of Tanger-Med;
13. H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita congratulated H.E. Ms Tanja Fajon for Slovenia's valuable support to an enhanced cooperation between the European Union and the Western Balkans countries and for their gradual and accelerated integration in the EU;
14. Slovenia and Morocco reaffirm the centrality of the historic and privileged partnership between the Kingdom of Morocco and the European Union and emphasized the importance of this strategic partnership for the two parts. In this regard, Slovenia welcomes the exemplary role of Morocco, as a strategic partner of the European Union;
15. Slovenia and Morocco reiterated their commitment to contribute to the strengthening of cooperation, dialogue, and partnership in the Euro-African region and between the European Union and its southern neighborhood, in order to address the common challenges, particularly in the field of security, stability, migration and social and economic development;
16. On regional issues, Slovenia and Morocco exchanged views on topics of common interest, and on the new challenges to peace and security in the Sahel region. Slovenia and Morocco emphasize their positive and constructive role in maintaining stability, security and peace in their respective regions and reaffirm their commitment to international legality and the peaceful settlement of conflicts and disputes. In addition, Slovenia recognizes the important role that Morocco plays for security in the region and commends the Morocco's commitment to stability, fight against terrorism and to cooperation on cross-border migration management;
17. Slovenia welcomes the strategic initiatives undertaken by Morocco, under the Leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, for Africa, particularly the African Union's Migration Agenda, HM King Mohammed VI's Atlantic Initiative to promote access to the Atlantic Ocean for the Sahel States, and the Morocco-Nigeria Gas Pipeline (MNGP) project;

18. With regard to the question of Western Sahara, the Slovenian Minister reiterated the Slovenia's longstanding support to the United Nations-led process to achieve a just, lasting, and mutually acceptable political solution, based on compromise, in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

Both Ministers agreed upon the exclusivity of the United Nations in the political process and reaffirmed their support for the UN Security Council Resolutions, including most recent S/RES/2703 of 30 October 2023;

Slovenia and Morocco support the efforts of the Personal Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General, and reaffirm their active support for his efforts to advance the political process based on the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, as well as their support for MINURSO;

Slovenia welcomes serious and credible efforts by Morocco to move the UN-led process forward towards a realistic, practicable, enduring and mutually acceptable political solution based on compromise. In this respect, Slovenia values the autonomy plan, presented, on 11 April 2007, by Morocco to the UN Secretary General, as a good basis for a definitive solution agreed under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General and his Personal envoy;

19. H.E. Mr. Nasser Bourita appreciates the valuable initiatives of Slovenia towards Africa and welcomes, particularly, the organization of the 13th Africa Day International Conference on the green transition, held in Ljubljana in May 2024. He also congratulates Slovenia for yearly organization of the leading international conference in the Central and South-Eastern Europe, the Bled Strategic Forum, which offers the opportunity to share views and to discuss global issues at a high-level stage.
20. On migration issue, the two Ministers recalled the excellent ties between the Republic of Slovenia and the Kingdom of Morocco in security and migration, and underlined their mutual commitment to further strengthen dialogue and cooperation in this regard. Both sides support comprehensive approach to migration and promote safe, legal and orderly migration.
21. Slovenia and Morocco expressed their commitment to enhance their cooperation in fighting illegal migration, human smuggling and trafficking, and agreed to effectively address the migratory pressure as a common challenge and shared responsibility; Slovenia acknowledges Morocco's efforts during its 2023 chairmanship of the Rabat Process, in particular fostering return and sustainable reintegration.
22. Ministers confirmed to strengthen cooperation on safe returns, readmission (including the process of identification and issuance of travel documents) and sustainable reintegration.
23. In addition, both sides agree to set up a regular high-level bilateral migration dialogue of their competent national authorities, through the establishment of appropriate consultation and cooperation mechanism for regular exchange of information, in particular to solve pending return and readmission cases and to improve further the readmission process.
24. The two parties further discussed possibilities for closer cooperation in the field of internal security and law enforcement especially in the areas of fighting organized crime, sexual exploitation of children, cybercrime, money laundering, fraud and economic crime, corruption, forgery, and trafficking of documents as well as terrorism;

25. Both sides also confirmed their commitment to the two-State solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions;
26. Both sides committed to work closely and to continue consultation and coordination within international organizations on multilateral issues of common interest.

Signed in Rabat on 11 June 2024 in two originals in the Slovenian, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authoritative. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the English text will prevail.

H.E. Tanja Fajon
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign and European Affairs

H.E. Nasser Bourita
Minister of Foreign Affairs, African
Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates
