

Réunion : Conférence à l'Institut suédois d'Affaires internationales

Date : 16 mars 2017

Durée : 7'42" (130 mots/minute)

Oratrice : Izumi Nakamitsu, Haute représentante pour les affaires de désarmement

Difficulté : *

Éléments à fournir

SDG	ODD
Agenda 2030	Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030

Thank you very much, Mats, for that introduction. It is really wonderful to be here.

The first point I want to say is that I don't think we should forget that we have actually made a lot of progress.

We really should not lose sight of these achievements that we have collectively made.

And I would like to argue that the United Nations was at the center of that, together with partners in the bilateral world, and also civil society partners.

But also the reality is that lots of people are still left behind, which is why the SDG Agenda 2030 has the catchword, the slogan: "No one to be left behind".

And there are global trends or megatrends we always talk about, and I am sure in this part of the world a very strong interest exists, and you are actually at the forefront: climate change, how to tackle the climate change impact, various scarcities in resources, food, water, natural resources, rapid urbanization and the massive human mobility.

I like to use the word human mobility because it is not just the refugee movements and asylum seekers, but also regular and irregular migration movements, massive trends.

And all these mega trends, I think, are now testing our global institutions: international governance systems and institutions, including the United Nations. We are all being tested by those megatrends.

Now turning to the -sort of- world of conflict, the world that I have been working in.

I think it is safe to say that most conflicts are still internal. But those internal conflicts have really taken very serious, complicated and complex turns. Those internal conflicts have their root causes in various internal problems, including sometimes sectarian divides, exclusion and marginalization of certain groups within the society. I think inequality is a big issue... Competition over power and resources, bad governance, weak institutions still continue to be at the center of those internal conflicts.

But it has become much more complex and complicated because those internal conflicts very quickly take regional and also international overtones.

And therefore it has become really very difficult to resolve. And one symbolic thing that we are witnessing every day is how difficult it is for all of us to solve the conflict in Syria.

And part of the global institutions, and the problem with it, is the Security Council that continues to be unable to find a solution for different reasons, but the division between some of the superpowers in the Security Council is a big, big, big, big reason for it.

So the consequence is that conflicts today protract. They don't get solved.

And also not only today's conflicts protract, they also seem to become more brutal. Really absolutely shocking scenes that we see in places like Syria again, Iraq by ISIS, but also in South Sudan. It is really unspeakable, and that's all exacerbated by terrorism, violent extremism, but also I would say cross-border or transnational organized crime, crimes. All these factors are now contributing to the brutalization of conflicts that we are witnessing in today's world.

I think one of the biggest challenges that the UN today has – it is not just the UN, it is the international community - is the threat to the norms, the universal norms that we have been working on and developing for the past 100 years or so. Now those international universal norms are being ignored, not respected.

The threats obviously are coming from parties to the conflicts: not just the state actors, but obviously non state actors.

So, here I think in the normative development area, we need really to put our heads together, and then think about what are the things that we should be doing to not just protect the norms but also restore in certain areas.

I think also the second point here is that [in] the world today, especially in the area of SDGs, we need to figure out how to work with the private sector and the civil society. And again the UN is not necessarily good at this. We need to have new approaches and new strategies to mobilize and work with the private sector.

And the third point is what I already touched on a little bit – which is the Security Council: the divisions among some of the key members, but also it does not really reflect today's power balance as we see it in the global community, and that still remains a big issue. When we need to actually work with some of the emerging super powers, we have to think through how we might be able to make the UN – not just in the Security Council, but the United Nations bodies - more reflective of the new power balance in the world.

Actually, there is something that Security Council members often say – half jokingly but it is actually true: the only good decision that the Council made in 2016 was to decide on Mr. Guterres' appointment.

So, against this background, I think there are many people who are beginning to ask: so, what is the state of multilateralism today? Some people are even saying : Is multilateralism under threat ? Is it dead?

There are a couple of things. I am a born optimist. Actually, if you are working with the UN, you have to be an optimist. You should not work for the UN if you are a pessimist.

I actually do see some opportunities, or maybe crises turned into opportunities.

Again, I am an optimist. But what I see, you know, having worked for the UN for many many years, is that we actually do have a lot of potential. We can do a lot more if we only put our heads together and have the courage to change so that we will be able to deliver.

So if we can put those efforts together, I am pretty sure we can do a lot, we can achieve a lot. And then the good news is that we have a great leader at the UN today. Thank you.

Réunion : Conseil de Sécurité (Terrorisme, 7690^e séance)

Date : 11 mai 2016

Durée : 7'55" (119 mots/minute)

Orateur : Jan Eliasson

Difficulté : **

Éléments à fournir : En tant que vice Secrétaire Général, M.Eliasson prononce cette intervention lors d'un débat sur les efforts visant à contrer la rhétorique et les idéologies terroristes.

Plan of action to prevent violent extremism	Plan d'action pour la prévention de l'extrémisme violent
---	--

Mr. President,

Members of the Security Council,

I thank the Egyptian Presidency for convening today's open debate. This is an opportunity to discuss how we best counter terrorist narratives and ideologies as well as an opportunity to recall the fundamental interests and the fundamental values connected to this pursuit.

This Council is all too aware of the volatile mix of protracted conflicts, terrorism and violent extremism in today's world. You have mourned fallen soldiers, police and peacekeepers as well as tragically great numbers of civilian victims of atrocities committed by terrorists.

You have used sanctions and other measures in the Council to stop their activities. You have understood the serious threat posed by terrorist groups, who even control territories and population centres and attempt to blur borders between sovereign States.

We all know that terrorist groups are exploiting religious beliefs in order to incite hatred and violence and to cause division and polarization in our societies. We

see it all over the world today. They blatantly challenge the values enshrined in the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as our shared pursuit of peace, justice and human dignity.

We must be aware that terrorist bombs are targeted to devastate more than human lives. They target our common values. They aim to spread fear. And thus we have a responsibility to shield people from harm and from fear and to protect universal values from erosion.

When we fulfil this responsibility, we gain both a moral and a strategic advantage. Faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and the primacy of global solidarity represent the greatest force in our hands to counter terrorist narratives and ideologies.

Mr. President,

Members of the Council,

There is around the world a great deal of legitimate concern about young people falling prey to terrorist narratives and ideologies. We know that youth may be

vulnerable to the lure of terrorists, who offer them a sense of belonging, a salary and a promise of glory, even paradise.

We all know that their promises are patently false. But we also know that young people are capable of discerning the truth and recognizing siren songs. I believe, in fact, that the vast majority of youth are naturally inclined towards building a good life for themselves and for others. I am confident that they are eager to make contributions to peaceful and thriving societies for all.

I dare say, if young people are considered good enough to fight wars, they certainly deserve the chance to make peace.

I call on Council Members and all Member States to translate this resolution into practice. We must do more than repeat general statements about youth being the “leaders of the future” as we often say.

We must invest in youth today – with material resources and meaningful political empowerment. We must not only work for youth - we must work with youth. Instead of viewing young people as part of the problem, we must harness their immense potential to be part of the solutions.

In today's world, young people have superior communications skills, extensive social media networks and often more influential voices than their elders. Just check with your children and grandchildren. If we are to counter terrorist narratives, we have to motivate and mobilize this generation of youth – the largest in history – to amplify our messages of common humanity.

Young people are thirsty for visionary ideas. Thus, good governance, respect of human rights and the rule of law should be central components of any inspiring vision.

When we give young people avenues and arenas for engagement and for action, they will see hope and they will be ready to build peaceful societies to the benefit of generations to come.

Mr. President,

Members of the Council,

The Secretary-General has often stressed that terrorism and violent extremism are not related to any single ethnic group, nationality or religion.

Terrorists are united in their nihilistic and anti-humanistic beliefs. We must respond by uniting as one human family which defends our shared values and embraces diversity. The United Nations is a wonderful platform for this mobilization.

The Secretary-General has called for a comprehensive approach to respond to the complex factors which drive people to violent extremism.

It is necessary to now counter and refute false and nefarious narratives. Such narratives must be replaced with compelling alternative visions, backed by tangible opportunities for meaningful and constructive engagement and, for instance, for jobs. Youth unemployment is a scourge around the world.

When we are to address terrorist threats, security and military responses remain important. Let's state this clearly, but they are not enough. Not enough.

The Secretary-General strongly focuses on a preventive approach in his Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. We need to convey positive messages and

take pre-emptive action. Such messages and action should address conditions conducive to terrorism and violent extremism.

We also need to listen carefully to affected communities. We need to engage at the grassroots level. We need to partner with faith leaders, with women and young people. They are the ones on the frontlines, facing and standing up to violent extremists – and they know best how to respond on the local and individual level.

In a deeper sense, the best narrative to counter violent extremism may perhaps not be a narrative. This whole discussion is not about a story. It is about action to build peace, development and human rights.

It is about standing together in global solidarity against forces which want to divide and scare us, which want us to forget the beauty of diversity and the tremendous power of fundamental and universal values and principles.

Thank you.

Réunion : Sommet de haut-niveau sur les changements climatiques

Date : 29 juin 2015

Durée : 7'28"

Orateur : Xiuhtezcatl, jeune autochtone défenseur de l'environnement

Difficulté : ***

Éléments à fournir :

	Tradition Meshika
Earth Guardians	Les Gardiens de la Terre

Good morning everybody,

My name is Xiuhtezcatl. I am very very honored to be here today. I think it's amazing to look around the world and see almost 200 countries represented here... today, because it's really gonna take united action from all of us in order to make a difference.

I am 15 years old and I'm the youth director of an organization called Earth Guardians and I'm working with young people around the planet to protect our earth, our air, our water and our atmosphere for my generation and those to follow.

I stand before you today representing my entire generation as well as generations unborn. I stand before you representing the indigenous peoples of this earth and those that will inherit the effects of our climate crisis that we face today, as a global community.

My father raised me in the Meshika tradition. I learnt from my father that all life is sacred. He showed me that every living thing is connected because we *all* draw life from the same earth and we *all* drink from the same waters. I was raised in the ceremonies of my people, learning the dances, the songs in the language that was passed on to me by my people, by my ancestors and what I learned from my cultural heritage is that this life is a gift, and it is our responsibility to respect and protect that which gives us life.

So I began to look at the world around me and began to learn about the issues that we are facing and I saw that we were facing a crisis that was beginning to

affect every living system on our planet. I saw that climate change was gonna be the defining issue of our time. Seeing this world, seeing my world, collapsing around me, pushed me into action. So for the last nine years since I was six years old, I have been on the front lines of climate and environmental movements standing up to fight for my future and for our planet.

What a lot of people fail to see or simply ignore is that climate change isn't an issue that is far off in the future. It isn't solely affecting the ice caps in the poles or the sea level rise in our oceans. It is affecting us right here, right now and will only continue to get worse. In a three month period, my family and I, we witnessed the greatest wildfires and the worst floods we've ever seen in Colorado history.

Frequency and severity of massive storms and massive floods, massive super storms are increasing all over the planet because of our lack of action, and because of the increase in carbon dioxide emissions, because of the way that we are living and because of this young people are standing up all over the planet because we see that climate change is a human rights issue.

It is affecting especially developing countries, women, children and people of color more than anything else. We have to realize that what is at stake is no longer just

the planet, is no longer just the environment but what is at stake right now, is the existence of my generation. What is at stake right now, what we are fighting to protect, what is in your hands, what is in our hands today is the survival of this generation and the continuation of the human race. That is what is at stake.

So youth are standing up all over the planet to find solutions to the issues that will be left to my generation. Earth Guardian crews are starting up all over the planet and youth are using their passions to address some of the greatest issues of our time by planting seeds of solutions that can change the world. Over 400,000 people marched through the streets of New York City in the greatest climate march in the history of the world.

When we look into our eyes, we see the next generation and we see that *that* is the planet that we are leaving to them. We look at the world and we see the planet that we will leave to our generation. So don't be afraid to dream big because not only is it possible to get off of fossil fuels but it is already happening. Cities and countries around the planet are committing to go a hundred percent renewable in the first half of the century.

The Pope himself called for a shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The solutions are here and with them are coming millions of jobs and economic opportunities. Imagine if we took all the money that we are pouring into the fossil fuel industry and into the nuclear industry and put that into renewables. Imagine what we could accomplish. Phasing out fossil fuels is a dream that is slowly becoming a reality. And the question is: will it happen fast enough to avoid further climate catastrophe?

It's time to look to the skies for the solutions that we need because the future of energy is no longer down the hall. We need to reconnect with the earth and end this mindset that we have that we can take whatever we want without ever giving back or understanding the harm that we are doing to the planet. It's this mindset of destruction, of greed that is tearing apart our planet. We need to change the fundamental beliefs of our entire society. We have to remember that we are all indigenous to this earth, and that we are all connected.

Every generation leaves a mark on this planet. We leave something behind to be remembered by, and we are at a tipping point, right now, where we will either be remembered as the generation that destroyed the planet, as the generation that put profits before future, or as the generation that united to address the greatest issue of our time by changing our relationship with the earth.

We are being called upon to use our courage, our innovation, our creativity and our passion to bring forth a new world. So, in the light of this collapsing world that we see, what better time to be born than now? What better time to be alive than now? Because this generation, the people in this room right here, we get to change the course of history.

Humans have created the greatest crisis that we see on the planet and the greater the challenge, the higher we will rise to overcome it. We need you to stand with us. Never before has there been such a unifying issue as climate change and it is time now to set aside everything that divides us, everything that separates us, everything that makes us want to point a finger at someone else and throw the problem to them. Who will stand with me now? For mine and future generations to inherit a healthy, just and sustainable planet. Who will stand with me now?

The hope of this planet, of this generation is in our hands. I don't want you to stand up *for* us, I want you to stand up *with* us, because together we can change the world and it's not gonna be easy, but it is our responsibility. We owe it to future generations, to be the leaders of today, so that they can have a tomorrow.

Thank you.

FOR TRAINING PURPOSES ONLY