Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the most important urban issues is the efficient reconstruction and support of areas that suffered as a result of war or natural disasters.

This subject was widely discussed within the framework of the Urban Crisis Track – one of the components of the official programme of the WUF11 in Katowice in June this year.

Armed conflicts continue with varying degrees of strength in different parts of the world. There are new ones, such as the war in Ukraine, just beyond the Polish border.

It reminds us of the importance of an efficient process of urban reconstruction – social and economic one – for millions of people living in war-torn areas.

Also damages caused by natural disasters are an important topic, in particular in times of climate change, which affects the intensity and frequency of extreme weather phenomena.

If the process of bringing aid and restoring conditions to normal functioning after the damage is to be effective, dialogue and cooperation with local communities and self-government authorities are necessary.

It is also particularly important to involve international organizations in helping those areas, that suffer the most from contemporary threats.

In this context, the readiness of UN-Habitat to support the Ukrainian side in the long-term urban projects and urban planning related to reconstruction of the areas destroyed during hostilities, is of great importance and highly appreciated.

Poland is ready to play an active role in the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine by engaging in cooperation at the government, regional, local and non-governmental levels. We are also ready to cooperate with UN-Habitat in this area. Thank you very much.

Małgorzata Jarosińska-Jedynak
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