



*Under the honorary patronage of His Excellency Mr. Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia.*



Under the patronage of UNESCO



## 2019 Ljubljana Declaration on Buildings and Infrastructure Resilience

Contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals

1. The World Construction Forum 2019 was convened and jointly organized in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from April 8 to 11, 2019 by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), Slovenian Chamber of Engineers (IZS) and the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering (UL FGG), the latter two celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2019. The event was co-organized by several international engineering organizations, as well as national engineering professional societies and associations in Slovenia. The Forum was under the Honorary Patronage of Mr. Borut Pahor, the President of the Republic of Slovenia, and under the Patronage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Forum was sponsored by several entities from construction industry. Over 600 participants - scientists, researchers, engineers, entrepreneurs, professors, students, policy makers, public officials as well as representatives from construction industry - took part from 50 countries and from 5 continents.
2. The participants take note that: i) the planet's over 7.5 Billion need homes, workplaces, clean water, sanitation, buildings and infrastructure which are safe and operational at any time; ii) feeding the world requires investing into irrigation and other support systems for agriculture; iii) climate change calls for measures of adaptation to warmer and more volatile climate as well as measures for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; iv) ageing populations particularly in the West have new requirements for residential and transportation infrastructure.
3. The participants are aware that the construction sector, including engineering, in which they are active stakeholders is the key element in solving these problems and are determined to shape its education, research and industrial strategies towards addressing these imminent challenges.
4. The participants point out that construction industry and related engineering disciplines especially civil engineering is an important economic driver in different economic environments and contributes to economic development by a direct contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and also indirectly by securing resilient buildings and infrastructure facilitating growth in all other sectors.
5. The participants pledge that the construction sector, including engineering, can and will contribute to international development agreements, especially to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 2018 Paris Agreement on Climate Change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and last but not least to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
6. Consistent with the strategic goals of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals through engineering, the participants pledge to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to tackle climate change (SDG #13 Climate Change). It can mitigate the effects of changing climate, for example by installation of passive and active climate control in buildings, by preventing floods, improving water supply etc. (SDG #6 Clear Water and Sanitation). It can furthermore





