



**Remarks by Ms. Tatiana Valovaya
United Nations Under-Secretary General
Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva**

**Opening ceremony of UNITAR 60th anniversary photo exhibition
Friday, 6 October 2023 at 16:00
Ronde du Mont-Blanc, Geneva**

**Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear Friends:**

- **It is my pleasure to join you today for the opening of this exhibition marking the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). I would like to warmly congratulate UNITAR staff and its Executive Director Mr. Nikhil Seth on this milestone anniversary.**
- **UNITAR was created in 1963 to respond to a specific need of that time: following the Year of Africa, UNITAR provided hundreds of trainings and upskill for diplomats from newly independent states that joined the United Nations in the beginning of the 60s.**
- **The scope of UNITAR's activities has remarkably widened over the years, to become a world-renowned research center on multilateral diplomacy; economic development and social inclusion; environmental sustainability; sustainable peace; research and technology applications, to name just a few domains.**

- **Beyond impactful learning activities, UNITAR has been providing - through the United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) - geospatial analysis, which helps both UN Member States and specialized agencies to rapidly respond to humanitarian emergencies by delivering assistance quickly and efficiently to those in need.**
- **In the face of complex and interconnected global challenges, the role of UNITAR with its innovative learning tools is more relevant than ever. With an ambition for the UN and other multilateral institutions to become more nimble and effective, we need UNITAR's unique experience in developing and scaling up new capabilities for data, innovation, strategic foresight and behavioral science, in line with the Secretary-General's "*Our Common Agenda*" report.**
- **At the United Nations Office at Geneva, we are looking forward to our continued successful cooperation with UNITAR in the years to come towards a better global governance and more efficient and inclusive multi-stakeholder solutions to the global challenges.**
- **Thank you.**