

بِسْمِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



STATEMENT  
BY

*His Highness  
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Emir of the State of Qatar*

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**The General Debate of the  
Sixty-Second Session of the  
United Nations General Assembly**

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*In the Name of God, The Most Compassionate, The Most Merciful*

**Mr. President,**

**Mr. Secretary-General,**

**Excellencies,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election for the presidency of the 62nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and I wish you all success in your mission. I would like also to thank your predecessor, H.E. Sheikha Haya Bint Rashed Al-Khalifa for presiding over the previous session.

I would like further to pay tribute to H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations who is assuming his tasks at a critical juncture in which the Organization is facing serious challenges that threaten international peace and security.

**Mr. President,**

The present session is convened at a time when more than one fifth of the world population of Muslims are observing the mandatory fasting during the month of Ramadan. We were keen on participating in the activities of this session that is held in the holy month, to stress our conviction of the need to contribute in promoting coexistence among nations and to bring up an important issue related to the objectives of the international community concerned with the future of peace and progress.

**Mr. President,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I would like to recall Security Council resolution 1770 on Iraq, recently adopted on 10 August, due to its great significance. That resolution has partly restored to the United Nations its rightful role in addressing Iraq's tragedy after it has been proven that it is no longer possible for that matter to remain confined to one State or to an alliance of States of converging interests.

The major conflicts in the world have become too big for one single power to handle them on its own. Addressing them should, therefore, be assigned to the United Nations, for it constitutes the political embodiment of the international community's principles, laws and broad aspirations to peace-building and achieving progress based on the rule of law and the will of those upholding its authority .

If the role of the United Nations is to be more effective, its structure must be reformed to adapt to the changes that have been taking place in the world since the adoption of its Charter in 1945.

While the current situation in Iraq requires that the international community assume its responsibilities, the main responsibility rests with all Iraqi leaderships for they are the primary responsible for hammering out a formula of national reconciliation that ensures justice, peace and security and preserves the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

**Mr. President,**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The international order witnessed cold and bloody wars. As much as bloody wars are humanly unacceptable, cold wars are psychologically unbearable because they would inevitably and consequently lead to shadowy conflicts. Such conflicts are completely incompatible with the nature of a world in which the forces of enlightenment and the components and tools of understanding among nations and cultures have strived in an unprecedented manner in the history of mankind.

**Mr. President,**

The work of the United Nations in the spheres of development should be accorded high priority due to the close relationship that exists among development, security and peace. We are pleased that the General Assembly of the United Nations has approved the State of Qatar's initiative to host the first follow-up conference of the International Conference on Financing for Development in Doha in the second half of 2008.

**Mr. President,**

One of the major challenges we all have to address is related to the protection of the environment which is exposed to deterioration and pollution that threaten human life and all living creatures, in addition to the destructive effect resulting from climate change. Such situation requires our cooperation and concerted action to come up with new conceptions that provide effective short, mid- and long term solutions that are put forward by both industrialized and developing countries. I would like to stress my country's position in support of any and all measures aiming to protect the environment and achieve sustainable development.

**Mr. President,**

International aid is one of the main fields that promote international partnership. Its volume should therefore be increased and efficiency improved by easing the conditions of granting it, so it would further the national development strategies of recipient countries.

In that regard, we are concerned about the decline of the real value of the official development assistance in 2006. Donors should therefore make additional efforts to double the assistance offered to sub-Saharan countries, and to advance the development agenda of the United Nations .

On the other hand, in light of the important and major role of global trade in financing development, the successful conclusion of the Doha Round would provide new opportunities to promote multilateral trade transactions. While we are concerned about the deadlock in the ongoing consultations on the implementation of the Doha Development Agenda, we hope we would be able to put that phase behind us and that all parties concerned, especially the developed countries, would show enough flexibility to reach mutually beneficial practical results.

**Mr. President**

**Your Excellencies,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I have not come to this session to bring up issues or crises related to my country or the Arab world, though some of them have reached the stage of human tragedies. I have come here to bring up broader issues, convinced that all Arab and Muslim issues are related to the problems of the world as a whole. Achieving a global understanding of the new stage of international progress, that asserts the conviction of resorting to the collective international will, as embodied by the United Nations, its leadership and system and the set of principles on which its Charter is based, would not benefit the Arab and Muslim causes alone, but also the world as a whole. Just causes are always protected by the principles of law, and law provides their true guarantee and powerful support..

**I thank you. May peace, mercy and blessings of God be upon you.**