

ستلظنة عشمان

Sultanate of Oman

STATEMENT BY

HIS EXCELLENCY MINISTER

SAYYID BADR BIN HAMAD BIN HAMOUD AL-BUSAIDI

SECRETARY-GENERAL

OF THE

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SULTANATE OF OMAN AND

HEAD OF THE OMANI DELEGATION TO THE 65^{TH} Session of the United Nations General Assembly

DURING THE 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

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Permanent Mission of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations 3 Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza 305 East 47th Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10017 Tel: (212) 355-3505 Fax: (212) 644-0070 Excellency, Mr. President Joseph Deiss, Excellencies and respected colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to offer you and your friendly country, Switzerland, our warmest congratulations, on your election as President to this 65 session of the UN General assembly.

I also wish to express our appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Dr. Ali Treiki, from Libya, and all his fruitful efforts in conducting the previous session.

Mr. President,

The United Nations has had tangible achievements since its establishment more than 65 years ago. It contributed in offering assistance, expertise in economic spheres, social and environment, as well as its work in the cause of international security and peace, and the establishment of stability in a number of regions of the world.

The Sultanate of Oman hopes that this session achieves unprecedented progress in our collective international pursuit of achieving peace, security and prosperity for all.

Mr. President,

The International Community meets today in challenging times, faced with a full range of complex issues, from ongoing political instability, to security challenges, financial crises, economic and environmental problems, to the nuclear question and non proliferation. We have learned that the only solutions to such challenges can best be attained through dialogue and positive participation by all, aimed at arresting dangers that threaten international security and peace.

The rain floods in Pakistan, which lead to the dislocation of more than twenty million Pakistanis, who have lost their homes and still going through tragic suffering, despite

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the continuing international rescue efforts, will require more outside assistance, expertise and capabilities that will help Pakistan to overcome this tragedy and mitigate its consequences, on the ground, as well as push ahead with the process of reconstruction.

These floods, the volcanic eruption in Iceland and the H1N1 epidemic, for example, are just recent phenomena that have highlighted just how interconnected we truly are. They demonstrate the important need for international cooperation. What affects one corner of the world can truly have sweeping impacts across the globe.

The establishment of the United Nations, its specialised organisations and legal body, has come about after devastating wars and in the aftermath of the first and second World Wars. Regardless of the fact that the international community has not been able, so far, to find the means to resolve complex political problems, the United Nations does offer multilateral mechanisms and objectives, which have played an enormous role in the reduction or the neutralisation of many crises. This is in addition to the roles played by the United Nations in helping developing countries in numerous and specialised fields, that are necessary for social and economic development, and in the protection of environment.

We see it necessary to achieve a new level in the role of the United Nations and its effectiveness. This requires the Permanent Members of the Security Council, to accept the notion of reorganising the role of the UN, in terms of expanding its administrative base. In the heart of this new role, there is a need for a fair management of interests in world trade, in a way which will make member states feel that it is an organisation for all.

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We are looking forward to seeing the International Community conduct a comprehensive review of the requirements for international peace and security, in view of all the lessons learned from wars in the past century and today.

Mr. President,

We are looking forward, along with you and all member states, towards a world of lasting security, blessed by good intentions and a confidence in the future; a world, where all peoples enjoy shining freedom and the beauty of life.

We are looking forward to the day, where dialogue prevails on the basis of acceptance of the other, regardless of social and cultural differences between human communities. We believe dialogue between Governments, which differ in their perspectives on issues, will lead to a clearer system of global partnership and co-existence, embraced by development and prosperity.

Mr. President,

The Sultanate of Oman believes strongly that part of her responsibilities, in the context of development, is making the Omani person the effective mover of the wheel for development. Therefore, my Country has dedicated all resources towards that goal, especially in the fields of education at all levels and medical care for every individual in the Sultanate of Oman.

On the social front, the People of Oman and their Government exercise their roles and participate effectively in everything that concerns the life of the Omani Citizen, through the Council of Oman, with its two Chambers; the State and Shura Councils.

The role of the Omani Citizen along the path of his country's development is central and indispensible, stemming from the firm conviction of the Leader of Oman's Renaissance, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, that Life is created for mankind, male and female,

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and that Freedom is the core of life, and free positive expression is the seed of creativity, which is the fuel for development. This clear vision of His Majesty means that the Sultanate of Oman is moving towards the future with a firm determination.

Mr. President,

We wish to point out to our strong belief in the absolute necessity of finding a solution to the conflict in the Middle East. Although we support the direct negotiations between the Palestinians and Israelis, facilitated and sponsored by the United States of America, we still feel that the Israeli policy is vague, in accepting her responsibility towards the requirements of peace, and that is the establishment of an independent, sovereign and viable Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab land to the borders of the June 4th 1967.

We look forward to an active, positive and continuing role by US President Barak Obama, in order to reach a settlement that is just and comprehensive. We call upon Israel to grasp this historic opportunity to establish partnership in peace and security with the Arab Countries.

Thank you and peace be upon you all