



**STATEMENT**

**by H.E. Ms. Roza Otunbayeva  
President of the Kyrgyz Republic**

**at the General Debate of the Sixty Sixth session of  
the UN General Assembly**

**(22 September 2011, New York)**

---

Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations

866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 477, New York, NY 10017, Tel.: (212) 486-4214, Fax: (212) 486-52-59, e-mail: [kyrgyzstan@un.int](mailto:kyrgyzstan@un.int)

*Unofficial translation*

**STATEMENT**  
**by H.E. Ms. Roza Otunbaeva**  
**President of the Kyrgyz Republic**  
**66<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly**  
**(22 September 2011, New York)**

**Dear Mr. President!**

**Distinguished heads of delegations!**

**Ladies and gentlemen!**

First of all, let me congratulate His Excellency Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on his well-deserved reelection and wish him continued success in performing his high and responsible mission.

It also gives me great pleasure to congratulate His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser on his election as the President of the 66<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly.

We wholeheartedly welcome the newest member of our family - the Southern Sudan, which just joined the UN as our 193<sup>rd</sup> Member State.

**Mr. President,**

The world today is undergoing great transformation! The current global financial crisis does not look like recovery will start in the near future. The most developed economies of the world are experiencing most serious turbulences in their histories. At the same time, we are fascinated by the success of countries that only very recently had been struggling against poverty and stagnation.

The changes that greatly influence the humanity are of very rapid character. We believe that in this historical period, the UN must stay ahead of the new realities and lead the mankind to positive new beginnings.

**Mr. President,**

**The people of Kyrgyzstan has been watching the historical developments in North Africa and the Middle East with feelings of solidarity and sincere empathy.**

**One spring before the Arab Spring we had overthrown tyranny on our own land.**

**Our country in the heart of Central Asia has now moved from a strict presidential form of government to the parliamentary system.**

Last year, despite severe circumstances and upheavals, Kyrgyzstan succeeded with holding unprecedented in the regional history free and fair – as recognized by international observers – constitutional referendum and parliamentary elections.

Kyrgyzstan is now ruled by a coalition government, which together with the active and influential parliamentary opposition is learning to search for decisions in the interest of the whole nation, and not just to provide for the ever increasing demands of kleptocrats, as it was the case before.

There are mechanisms in place that now ensure transparency of decisions taken by the authorities. Openness and accountability of the authorities to the people have already begun to

bear fruits: economy is growing;. investments into education and healthcare have increased multifold. Radical reform of the judiciary has been started.

This year, on October 30, the people of Kyrgyzstan are to take part in the final phase of the transitional period, which is the election of a new president of the Republic. We want to establish a tradition of peaceful transfer of power in accordance with the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan and in the interests of the people.

From this high podium in the face of the world community, I wish to address to my countrymen: Our aspiration for democracy and unwavering course to building an open society is in the focus of global attention, the whole world is watching us.

We must cherish and be worthy of our freedoms that we achieved having paid such a high price! We have no right to be divided along ethnic, regional or religious lines. National unity, rule of law, good governance, civic participation, and free press – these are the cornerstones that will help us build a prosperous and a strong country!

*Spoken in Kyrgyz:* My beloved Kyrgyzstani nation! Cherish your Independence, preserve Unity, strengthen Democracy!

Taking this opportunity, I invite Member States and international organizations to send your observers to Kyrgyzstan for the upcoming presidential election.

**Mr. President,**

The path from victory over authoritarian regimes to building a functioning democracy is not a straight or easy path.

Nothing can justify use of force against peaceful demonstrators. The international community has the right to demand that all UN Member States unfailingly adhere with the norms of the international law in the sphere of human rights and freedoms.

**However, external intervention should remain a measure of the last resort and be used only and exclusively with the sanction of the UN Security Council.**

National wealth of the people of Kyrgyzstan, as well as of the people of many other countries in recent decades, has been plundered by corrupt and criminal rulers, with billions of dollars being siphoned off outside the country. Dictators should be held accountable for their crimes against their own people and should not be welcomed and provided refuge abroad.

The time has come for our Organization to develop clear standards and procedures to ensure justice and the return of embezzled funds to whom they really belong. This is not about settling personal accounts or politically motivated harassmen. This is, above all, about delivering justice and ending impunity.

**Mr. President,**

We are convinced that the restoration of peace and strengthening of rule of law in Afghanistan depend not so much on coercive measures but rather on economic development and resolution of acute social problems.

We believe that the decision to withdrawal international troops from Afghanistan must be taken only after stabilizing the country and ensuring that the Afghani army and police forces have enough capacity to be able to take over the responsibility for the security of their country and its borders.

Implementation of large economic projects in Afghanistan play critical role change the situation in the country. We attach great importance to the sub-regional project CASAREM on the development of the energy market Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan.

Kyrgyzstan is interested in continuing the UN strategic program for the Central Asian states on counteracting illicit drug trafficking and international crime and calls for a joint action in this direction. The State Service on Drug Control of Kyrgyzstan restored with the active support of the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as with the effective participation of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, has been actively operating and producing real visible results.

**Mr. President,**

In 2010, my country went through the most extraordinary events in its 20 year history of independence.

We continue to cooperate with the international community and the UN system in the Kyrgyz Republic in overcoming the consequences of the last year's clashes in the city of Osh.

In this regard we express our deep appreciation to the UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon and to the Secretariat of the Peacebuilding Fund for supporting our efforts to build sustainable peace.

Our cooperation is the best example of successful coordination of government, civil society, and international efforts on rapid response to the urgent peace-building problems.

On the main topic of the 66<sup>th</sup> UN GA debates "The role of mediation in settlement of disputes" I wish to particularly turn to the role of women in times of crises. When peace is broken and men take up arms, it is the women who often take responsibility for ending violence and restoring peaceful life in their communities'. Only the leadership of mothers, wives, and sisters can force the politicians to agree on contradictions based on compromise and mutual understanding. Worldwide women are a force for peace!

**That is what is happening in my country. Women that constitute a third part of the Parliament, and are the Chairman of the Supreme Court, Prosecutor General, Chairman of the National Bank, Ministers, Governors, countless activists and local leaders make tangible contribution to the restoration of peace and strengthening democracy.**

I am convinced that under the visionary leadership of the very strong leader like Michelle Bachelet this newest important institution – the UN Women – will become a champion of women's rights around the world!

**Mr. President,**

Kyrgyzstan is concerned with the decline of the world community's attention to the issues of global climate change. In every corner of the world including our region this issue has become a part of every country's security. We have high expectations from the forthcoming 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban later this year. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) should culminate with the adoption of a solid binding action plan for all the responsible members of the international community.

We note with satisfaction that this session's agenda includes the issue of sustainable development of mountainous countries that has great importance for countries like Kyrgyzstan.

The issues of re-cultivating uranium tailings remain to be an extremely acute problem. The International High-Level Meeting on Uranium Tailings in Central Asia held under the auspices of the UNDP in September 2009 in Geneva showed the willingness of the countries in the region to jointly resolve this sensitive issue.

In this context the Kyrgyz delegation is ready to introduce to the UN GA a draft resolution on the role of the international community in preventing the radiation threat in Central Asia.

Kyrgyzstan as one of the initiators of creating a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Central Asia and as the depositary of this treaty, which entered into force on 21 March 2009, considers important the promptest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and strengthening of the universality of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

**Mr. President,**

**We have been waiting for too long to welcome Palestine as a full member of the United Nations! Kyrgyzstan as early as in 1995 recognized Palestine within the boundaries of the 1967, and we join the call of the UN Secretary-General for Israel and Palestine to return to the negotiating table.**

Palestine and Israel should become good neighbors based on the two state solution. All citizens of both countries must enjoy their right to live in their land in peace and security. We, the nations of the world, wish for the quickest resolution of this long term conflict.

The Middle East Quartet has the strong mandate of trust of the whole international community and must without delay set up all necessary conditions for enabling these two states find mutually acceptable resolution.

**Mr. President,**

The Kyrgyz Republic has put forward its candidature for a non-permanent seat of the UN Security Council for the period 2012-2013.

Kyrgyz Republic as a member of the group of landlocked countries, the group of small countries with economies in transition, as well as a young democracy with multi-confessional population supports the need for wider representation of all categories of countries in the Security Council.

In this regard I request your support to Kyrgyzstan's candidacy to a non-permanent seat on the Security Council.

We sincerely hope that the principles of objectivity as well as of fair and equitable rotation embodied in the UN Charter will dominate the elections.

**Dear President,**

**Your Excellencies,**

Agendas of our meetings and daily news headlines are dominated by natural disasters, financial crisis, and political upheavals. Absence of justice, continued discrimination and severe violation of human rights all over the world remain the part of our lives.

At the same time we are watching with bewilderment inspiring historical changes, amazing technologic advancements, end of previously incurable diseases, as well as lifting hundreds of millions of people out of destitute and starvation in the life of one generation.

In this time of changes we must do our utmost to ensure that that the youth of our planet is most knowledgeable, full of optimism and courage in the name of achieving prosperity, peace and security all over the world. The youth is not just the future; it is also today of humanity.

Let us all open every door and every opportunity for growth and development of the younger generation. Tomorrow is born today!

In conclusion I would like to wish success to all of us in achieving high goals and tasks of our Organization in building a prosperous world. **Thank you for your attention!**