



REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

ADDRESS BY

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WITH FUNCTIONS OF PRIME MINISTER

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

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UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to congratulate His Excellency Joseph Deiss on his election as President of the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly. We are confident that his considerable expertise in the field of foreign politics and economics will be decisive for the success of all sectors of the UN activity.

I also wish to thank the outgoing President, His Excellency Ali Abdussalam Treki, for the excellent work carried out during the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly.

Finally, I would like to express a special thank to the UN Secretary General, His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, for his energy and extraordinary determination in leading this Organization. In particular, San Marino appreciates the interest he has shown towards all UN member Countries, without any distinction, regardless of their size. My Government has particularly appreciated the Secretary General's commitment in the field of reforms and his constant presence in all international politically relevant and in emergency situations. His presence in Haiti and Pakistan during the days following the terrible events we have all witnessed demonstrates not only the determination to affirm the UN presence during crises, but also a personal and particular sensitivity towards tragedies deeply affecting people.

Mr. President,

at a time characterised by major global challenges, which the international community is called upon to face, the reform process of the United Nations becomes fundamental for the future world stability and must remain the target of all our efforts. We have the duty to guarantee full effectiveness of the Organization's activities, with a view to preserving and strengthening its essential value as a point of reference for the international community and for any individual. We cannot afford to assist to the weakening of the United Nations' role due to the impossibility to reach an agreement on the measures to be taken for the improvement of its functioning.

I have the pleasure to reiterate, also this year, the support granted by San Marino to the revitalization process of the General Assembly. In this regard, I wish to thank Argentina and Slovenia as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the UN General Assembly for the report recently adopted, which is the outcome of considerable efforts and many informal meetings with the UN member States.

This reform is particularly important for my Country since the General Assembly is the most democratic body of the United Nations and, as such, it is the most adequate and sometimes the only forum where a small State can express its opinions. Therefore, San Marino hopes that, through its reform, the General Assembly may work more efficiently

and improve its relations with the other main bodies of the United Nations to avoid duplication of activities and effectively implement its resolutions.

The Republic of San Marino has been following with interest the reform process of the Security Council since 1994 and it is grateful to the Afghan Chairmanship for the important work it has carried out this year and for the wisdom and impartiality with which it has presided over intergovernmental negotiations aimed at reaching the broadest possible political agreement. San Marino believes that the reform should lead to a more democratic, responsible, transparent and efficient Security Council. The reform should also bring about a more balanced relation between the Security Council and the General Assembly, as well as a more effective cooperation with the Secretariat. These objectives can only be achieved through a permanent dialogue among the States and an increased flexibility of the respective positions.

Mr. President,

I wish to congratulate you on the choice of this year's theme, namely the Role of the United Nations in Global Governance. This is a particularly complex subject since it concerns the global threats on which the destinies of our peoples depend in an increasingly direct way: climate changes and biodiversity, economic, financial and employment crises, food security, public health, disarmament and proliferation of weapons, fight against terrorism. Today, the theme of Global Governance is inevitably linked to a new way of conceiving

multilateralism and to a new form of international cooperation, which acknowledges the interdependence of the problems we have to face, either internationally, nationally or regionally. We have learned from the crises of the last few years that it is necessary to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach, a more efficient mechanism to coordinate our policies and a global and coordinated course of action. San Marino believes that the United Nations have the duty to be at the core of this process and to play a leading role in managing global governance, not only on account of its deeply democratic nature, with a universal participation and undisputed legitimacy, but also because - thanks to the richness and diversity of cultures and traditions herein represented - it enables to adopt an approach that harmonises the interests of the entire international community and aims at sustainable development of all peoples.

Last year, the world economy has suffered a devastating financial crisis, the consequences of which are still evident to all. Today, unemployment has reached the highest levels in many Countries. Increases in the prices of food products and persistent inequalities contribute to higher poverty rates and cause violent social tensions. The global economic and financial crisis has severely hit all Countries in the world, without any distinction, thus becoming one of today's major challenges also for our Organization. Some Countries have been able to withstand the crisis, while for many others it is unfortunately still a very topical problem, influencing all decisions.

Despite this year's gradual recovery of the global economy, it is fundamental to effectively and continuously coordinate policies, with a view to guaranteeing a balanced, inclusive and sustainable growth. In this regard, San Marino recognises the essential role played by the G20, which, in 2009, has been able to prevent a global economic depression by taking coordinated and timely action. However, the decision making process of the G20 should be even more inclusive and transparent, so that its decisions can be translated into effective action at a world level. This requires the development of specific mechanisms, through which the interests, worries and aspirations of the Countries outside the G20 can be taken into account, with particular reference to developing Countries, in order to favour a G20 action complementary to that of the United Nations.

Well aware of the interconnection of global economic and financial policies, over the last two years the Republic of San Marino has intensified its efforts to make its legislative instruments and practices concerning transparency and international cooperation compliant with the international standards established by OECD and Moneyval. Within a short period, anti-money laundering and terrorist financing laws have been adopted, banking and financial supervision services have been rearranged and amendments have also been made to the company legislation, with the elimination of anonymous companies.

Mr. President,

the San Marino Government expresses its satisfaction with Resolution A/RES/64/289 on the United Nations system-wide coherence, unanimously adopted by the General Assembly on 2 July 2010. This Resolution, resulting from year-long negotiations, is a historic achievement for the reform process of the United Nations, with particular reference to the strengthening of the entire system. Indeed, it provides for a higher degree of coordination, efficiency and transparency, while avoiding fragmentation, waste, duplication of tasks and effort.

A fundamental element of this Resolution is the establishment of a new entity to be known as UN Women, which will be operational starting from 1 January 2011. The mandates of four already existing bodies committed to the promotion of women's rights will be transferred to this new entity, which will strengthen, in terms of capability, efficiency and responsibility, the United Nations system in the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The Republic of San Marino pays special attention to this theme and it has promoted, over the last few years, several national initiatives, which have made the women in San Marino aware of their rights and of the State protection mechanisms offered to them. At international level, San Marino has joined several campaigns aimed at raising public awareness and that of national authorities on women's rights, such as the campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women", launched by the Secretary General in 2008.

I would like to underline on this occasion the fundamental importance of the efforts made by the international community and of the pressure exerted by the civil society to achieve higher standards of human rights protection. Moreover, we cannot forget that women and children are always the most vulnerable section of the society in situations where rights and fundamental freedoms are violated. In several countries, women have to face very difficult situations: many of their rights are often violated and the authors of the violations go unpunished. The international community must spare no effort in order for dignity, rights and fundamental freedoms of all human beings to be duly protected.

Moreover, San Marino believes that the international community should be responsible for working in the most possible efficient way to combat trafficking in persons. Still today, this modern form of slavery affects millions of people, the majority of whom are, in this case as well, women and children. The Republic of San Marino attaches the utmost importance to the adoption last July of the resolution on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The collective commitment to combat trafficking in persons has led to the adoption of this Resolution, which is the result of long-lasting consultations and complex negotiations. San Marino guarantees its support to this initiative and will cooperate with all member States with a view to implementing this Plan of Action. This initiative is particularly important for San Marino since it has ratified in 2010 the United Nations Convention against transnational organised crime, the Additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against

transnational organised crime to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the Additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against transnational organised crime against the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air.

Mr. President,

as underlined in the Secretary General's report entitled "Keeping the promise" (A/64/665), the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have brought about a slow but progressive improvement in the fight against extreme poverty, hunger and disease and in the promotion of gender equality, education and environmental sustainability. However, the Secretary General's report outlines that progress has been discontinuous and uneven from region to region.

We have recently witnessed a series of severe unprecedented crises, including the world economic and financial crisis, the food and energy crisis, the one related to climate changes, humanitarian crises – among which the recent earthquake in Haiti and the huge floods in Pakistan – and those caused by the increased number of conflicts. After the good results obtained, we are now experiencing a severe set back and an even more structured commitment will be necessary to overcome these obstacles and achieve by 2015 the Goals set.

The Republic of San Marino expresses its satisfaction with the General Assembly's high-level meeting on the Millennium Development Goals,

which has recently concluded. The final document of this meeting aims at developing effective strategies for action and most of all at renewing the commitment and responsibility of each Country towards achieving the goals set.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the Republic of San Marino strong commitment in favour of the implementation of the ideals of the United Nations and of the principles enshrined in its Charter. We will guarantee our support to all initiatives necessary to reach such aim.

Thank you for your attention.