

REMARKS BY
HIS MAJESTY KING ABDULLAH II
PLENARY SESSION OF THE 65TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK
23 SEPTEMBER 2010

Bismillah ar-Rahman ar-Rahim

President Deiss,

Mr. Secretary General,

Your Excellencies,

More than ever before, our world is confronting multiple global crises ... which cannot be effectively addressed, without a coordinated, multilateral action. No country can face these crises, and provide for its future in isolation. The threats are global ... and so are the solutions. A strong, central role for the United Nations is essential.

It is also essential to resist forces of division that spread misunderstanding and mistrust ... especially among peoples of different religions. The fact is, humanity everywhere is bound together, not only by mutual interests, but by shared commandments ... to love God and Neighbor; to love the Good and Neighbor. This week, my delegation, with the support of our friends on every

continent, will introduce a draft resolution for an annual World Interfaith Harmony Week. What we are proposing is a special week, during which the world's people, in their own places of worship, could express the teachings of their own faith about tolerance, respect for the Other, and peace. I hope this resolution will have your support.

My friends,

Another critical area for U.N. leadership is peace ... and one peace hangs in the balance today. With direct negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis, a door opens to a final, two-state settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict ... And the establishment of an independent, viable and sovereign Palestinian state, living side by side with Israel, will pave the way for a comprehensive regional peace.

An end to this conflict is long overdue. No regional crisis has had a longer or broader impact on global security and stability. No such crisis has been longer on the UN agenda ... or has frustrated peacemakers more. Every resource spent in this conflict, is a resource lost for investing in progress and prosperity. Every day spent, is a day lost to forces of violence and extremism that threaten all of us in the region and beyond.

People are wary of disappointment ... and spoilers are doing everything they can to make us fail. We cannot underestimate the importance of success ... or

the painful cost of failure. All of us need to support swift action, hard choices, and real results. The alternative is more suffering ... deeper frustrations ... with spreading, more-vicious warfare. Such a catastrophic scenario will continue to drag in the whole world, threatening security and stability far beyond the borders of the Middle East.

To prevent that, the talks must be approached with commitment, sincerity, and courage. There should be no provocative or unilateral actions that can derail the negotiations. Instead, the parties must work hard to produce results, and quickly. That means addressing all final-status issues, with a view to ending the occupation, and reaching the two-state solution ... the only solution that can work ... as soon as possible. The status quo is simply unacceptable ... Enough injustice, enough bloodshed.

Jordan and the rest of the Arab and Muslim World are committed. In the Arab Peace Initiative, we reach out to Israel with an unprecedented opportunity for a comprehensive settlement ... A settlement that will enable Israel to have normal relations with 57 Arab and Muslim states, one third of the United Nations.

Now, we reach out to you, our fellow members of this United Nations. All stand to lose if the talks fail; all gain when peace is achieved. Our global and collective influence is key. Together, we must tip the balance toward peace.

Thank you.