



KAZAKHSTAN

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STATEMENT

by

the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan,

H.E. Mr. Nursultan A. Nazarbayev, at the sixty-sixth session

of the United Nations General Assembly

New York City, 21 September 2011

**Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Dear colleagues,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

On behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan and on my own behalf, let me congratulate the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, on his reelection to this high and important office.

I also congratulate Ambassador of Qatar, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, on his election to the Presidency of the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Republic of Kazakhstan congratulates the Republic of South Sudan, the newest member of the community of nations, on gaining its independence.

**Mr. President,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

This year, our country celebrates the 20th anniversary of its independence.

All along, Kazakhstan has been faithfully complying with the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter.

First, we have shut down the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site and have become one of the world's first newly independent non-nuclear States.

That represents an important contribution by my country to global peace and stability.

Second, we have succeeded in convening the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), which I proposed nineteen years ago.

Today, some 29 countries, representing nearly half the world's population, are among its participants.

Last year, Kazakhstan became the first C.I.S. country to chair the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). We have provided an impetus to all dimensions in the work of that organization.

We succeeded in holding a **Summit of the OSCE in Astana**, the first such event in the last 11 years.

The adoption of the **Astana Declaration** has strengthened the OSCE in the interests of creation of a co-operative and indivisible security community across the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian regions.

Kazakhstan has called for the establishment of a **Platform for Co-operative Eurasian Security** by combining, in the long term, the OSCE and CICA capabilities.

This year, Kazakhstan has assumed an important mission – the **Chairmanship of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)**.

We have focused our Chairmanship on international and regional security, **a dialogue between the Islamic world and the West** and the efforts to counter Islamophobia and enhance the regimes of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The OIC's response to a **humanitarian crisis in Somalia** has become the latest test for the organization.

We have managed to raise some 350 million U.S. dollars for programmes to deliver food and medical supplies and provide economic rehabilitation of Somalia.

Third, representatives of more than 140 ethnic groups and 40 religious denominations live in our society in peace and harmony.

Astana regularly hosts **Congresses of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions**.

We have offered to **hold these forums under the auspices of the United Nations**.

That represents our contribution to the global dialogue on confidence building in the world.

Fourth, our country has demonstrated commitment to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

After the break up of the Soviet Union, we have been able to move to the forefront in terms of the pace of reforms and economic growth.

In the last two decades, we have posted a **14-fold increase** in per capita GDP – from some 700 to about 10,000 U.S. dollars.

Fifth, Kazakhstan has called for the adoption of a Global Energy and Environment Strategy and has put forward an ambitious "Green Bridge" environmental initiative.

We plan to bring these ideas to the **Millennium Summit in Rio de Janeiro** next year.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The world is entering one of the most **critical periods in its history**.

Humanity has harnessed powerful sources of energy but is **powerless against the forces of nature**.

Veritable enclaves of poverty and destitution are popping up even in the wealthiest and better-off countries.

It becomes harder and harder to contain **outbreaks of ethnic and religious intolerance**, even in societies with well-established traditions of tolerance.

In today's inclusive information age, **there are no reliable means of protection against electronic extremism**.

Ten years ago, the whole world came together in the face of a **terrible 9/11 tragedy**.

Yet **no conclusive lessons have been learned** from it and the **recurrence of international terrorism** is on display in different parts of the world.

These are the main challenges of the new century.

In this context, I would like to draw the attention of the participants of this political discussion to the **following**:

First, we have to address issues of **global nuclear safety and security**.

We call for the start of the drafting of a **Universal Declaration of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World**.

We have high hopes for a **summit on nuclear safety and security issues, scheduled to be held in Seoul in 2012**.

It is necessary to **expand the legal framework** for and increase international control by the United Nations and the IAEA of compliance by all countries with their obligations in the area of non-proliferation.

We welcome the **Treaty between the United States and Russia** on a step-by-step reduction of their nuclear arsenals.

We consider it important that **all States that make up the "Nuclear Club" join that process**.

Today, the world faces a paradoxical situation: some are allowed to possess and upgrade nuclear weapons while others are strictly forbidden to be engaged even in research and development.

This is **unjust, disproportionate and unfair**. Relevant provisions of the international law **must thus be reviewed**.

The idea is to **strengthen responsibility of all States, especially nuclear-weapon States, to reduce nuclear weapons and gradually destroy their stockpiles**.

Today, **there are no clear legal assurances to non-nuclear States by nuclear-weapon Powers**.

In this important dimension, the Non-Proliferation Treaty **does not work**.

At this stage, nuclear weapons are **not a deterrent but a catalyst of an arms race**.

In the twenty-first century, **general curbs on the arms race** can be effectively provided only by a **collegiate body**, with broad powers, such as the United Nations Security Council.

I also propose that we adopt a **collective appeal of the international community to *de facto* nuclear-weapon States** to renounce their ambitions and to accede to comprehensive treaties.

Second, the growing globalization of economic processes requires a **paradigm shift in the economic component** of the United Nations work.

As for **global mechanisms of currency, trade and economic regulation**, their *raison d'être* should be **forecasting global crises and eliminating their causes**.

It is generally agreed today that the current global crisis has been caused by **deficiencies in the global financial system**.

However, **no significant steps to address its flaws have yet been taken**.

Procrastination in tackling this issue will result in **new violent waves of the crisis** and a surge of regional and global instability.

It is important to establish an effective **global economic governance mechanism**, with clear powers and lines of accountability of all institutions and actors, an effective **global reserve currency** and a tight control over **speculative capital**.

In this context, a **pact on global regulation** seems quite relevant.

Prevention of global hunger and the growing scarcity of water is another important issue.

Third, information space is a sphere that is as important to the future of humanity as mineral resources, air, the aquatic world and the outer space.

Yet today not a single **international convention or multilateral treaty** governs information processes.

Is it not the reason why, **in practical terms**, most hacker attacks on banks, businesses, government institutions, military and even nuclear facilities have been carried out with **impunity**?

I consider it important to establish **an international legal framework of the global information space.**

A resolution on **9 elements of a global culture of cybersecurity**, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2002, serves as a basis for these efforts.

Fourth, the new world order is taking shape against the backdrop of **increasing conflicts**.

It is quite significant that today the world's total military spending grows twice as fast as during the Cold War — **by 6 per cent a year**, reaching **1.5 trillion U.S. dollars**.

In this regard, my initiative to establish a **United Nations Peacekeeping Fund**, which I put forward for the first time nineteen years ago, has become even more relevant.

We are talking here about each United Nations Member State allotting **1 percent of its military budget**.

I urge the international community to return to this idea and take the required action.

Sixty-six years ago, the United Nations was founded as an organization based **"on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members."**

However, one cannot but notice how, today, the principle of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity is **often exposed to erosion**.

This could **undermine trust between nations**.

Today, it is essential **to upgrade the norms of international law** concerning the national sovereignty of States and, taking into account new realities, clearly define the bounds beyond which the involvement of the international community in the settlement of internal conflicts is warranted.

Global peace will only be enhanced if the United Nations **works closer with regional security arrangements**.

With respect to the Eurasian region, these are **CICA, Shanghai Cooperation Organizations (SCO) and Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)**.

It is important to ensure that the composition and the work of the Security Council adequately reflect the structure of the modern world. At the same time, the veto mechanism will guarantee that the decisions that are adopted are balanced and effective.

Kazakhstan has announced its **candidacy for a non-permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council for 2017-2018**.

We count on the support of the international community.

The complex **question of Palestine** has been under active discussion these days.

Kazakhstan supports the creation of a Palestinian state.

A difficult issue, however, has been placed on the Scales of History.

Kazakhstan, which has good relations with all States of the region, advocates a **just and lasting settlement of the conflict**, including through direct Palestinian-Israeli talks.

Fifth, as part of structural reforms, it is necessary to provide for a **strengthened role of the United Nations in preventing natural and man-made disasters and in their management**.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Each new era in the history of humanity issues **formidable challenges**.

Today, the most important calling is **to navigate successfully through the complexities of the global transformation in the twenty-first century**.

Trust and unity among all nations is a pillar of an equitable new world order.

Thank you for your attention.

