



**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Swaziland  
to the United Nations**

Statement by  
His Excellency The Right Honourable  
Dr. Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini  
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Swaziland

At the  
General Debate of the Sixty-sixth Session of the  
United Nations General Assembly

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**Mr. President,  
Distinguished Delegates,**

It is a great honour for me to address this august assembly on behalf of His Majesty, King Mswati III, Head of State of the Kingdom of Swaziland.

His Majesty King Mswati III, Her Majesty the Indlovukazi (Queen Mother), the Government and the People of the Kingdom of Swaziland send best wishes and congratulate you, Your Excellency and the State of Qatar, on your election to the Presidency of the 66th Session of the General Assembly. We are confident that your wide experience and diplomatic skills will ensure success in the challenging issues that face this session. We would also like to commend the excellent work of your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Deiss.

**Mr. President,**

The founders of the United Nations envisaged an international organization whose primary strength would rest in its members acting collectively and cooperatively in resolving international problems. In this regard, the theme for this General Debate, "The role of mediation in the settlement of disputes by peaceful means" pertinently captures that initial vision.

The pursuit of peace and security in many parts of the world is vital for a future of continued coexistence. We owe it to posterity to maintain a habitable world. International efforts to intervene and mediate in internal conflicts should not be taken lightly and interlocutors should be on point to understand the sensibilities involved in every specific situation. History has taught us that transplanted solutions never work successfully. There is no one size fits all in the pursuit of peace because every situation and era is unique. The international community should also be quick to spot irreverent forces that seek to champion narrow interest.

**Mr. President,**

The Kingdom of Swaziland wishes to congratulate the Republic of South Sudan on its independence obtained during this year and celebrated on 9 July 2011. Credit must also go to the Republic of Sudan for its steadfast resolve to see through that the process was successful. The efforts of the High Level Panel on Darfur and the Panel of the Wise, commissioned by the African Union are also acknowledged. The African Union has been instrumental in utilizing the vast experience of former leaders of Africa as it seeks to identify African solutions for African problems. My country wishes to reiterate its commitment to this concept.

For a similar reason, the Kingdom of Swaziland prays with the people of Libya that there will be a swift end to the current conflict and a sustainable solution that has the quest of peaceful resolution as the watchword when dealing with any transitional difficulties. In this regard, we look forward to the formation of an all-inclusive Government that would ensure that Libya moves towards a brighter future. The world needs a unified and stable Libya to resume its place in global affairs.

**Mr. President,**

It would be remiss of me if I did not mention the hugely damaging long-term effects of the war in Somalia. The difficulties are now compounded by a terrible famine. Whilst the blame might be placed on climate change, nevertheless we hold the view that Somalia would manage this latest humanitarian disaster – the famine – considerably better if the international community collaborated to a sustainable political solution which is essential for economic recovery.

Sadly, the world appears to have forgotten Somalia with only the African Union and other regional arrangements dealing with the effects of the war in that country. The piracy problem which has clearly deepened is one of many signs that Somalia needs a comprehensive political intervention that involves all international interlocutors. There has been a great deal of support for the fight against piracy but not as part of a more holistic approach. The world surely does not want to send the message that its interventions only take place when specific interests are threatened.

In the same spirit, the Kingdom of Swaziland encourages the Quartet in the Question of Palestine to remain resolute in finding common ground between Israel and Palestine. We are well aware there have been setbacks before but we are optimistic that at the end of it all, there will be a groundbreaking solution with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and harmony.

**Mr. President,**

The Kingdom of Swaziland joins the rest of the world in its condemnation of terrorism and threats to international peace and security. In the same spirit we recall the 9/11 criminal attacks that occurred ten years ago and all who were affected. We therefore commend the Secretary-General for hosting the Symposium on International Counter-Terrorism Co-operation which underscored the importance of greater international co-operation between States on a whole range of counter-terrorism topics, as covered in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. We hope that the recommendations thereof will provide a source of reference for all Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders.

**Mr. President,**

The promotion and protection of human rights are a common objective of all countries. Whilst great achievements have been made in international human rights cooperation since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, challenges still exist.

As a developing country we believe that greater importance should be attached to the right to development so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of globalization. The international community should pay more attention to economic, social and cultural rights such as the right to life, the right to food and the right to health and promote international cooperation in this regard. The developed countries should do more to honor their commitments in terms of

development assistance, technology transfer, debt reduction and market access so as to create favourable conditions for the effective promotion of universal realization of the right to development.

The Kingdom of Swaziland voted in favour of General Assembly Resolution 60/251 which established the Human Rights Council. We also formed part of the consensus on the Resolution on the Review of the Human Rights Council adopted this year. To this end we also support the engagement of Member States in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism which examines the human rights situation in all countries. Our country will be among those to be considered at the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism in October 2011 and we look forward to engaging in an open and candid dialogue with other Members of the Council.

**Mr. President,**

Throughout the past session we have pursued many developmental topics, notably, the High-Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS in June, at which our political will to intensify our efforts to eliminate the scourge was reaffirmed.

The Kingdom of Swaziland is proud to have made great strides in this regard. For example, the proportion of children born to HIV positive mothers enrolled in the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) programme, and born HIV-free has risen to 83% and is expected to reach 100% by 2015.

**Mr. President,**

In today's highly integrated and interconnected world, almost all issues demand full participation by international partners. Taiwan is one of the leading economic and technological powerhouses in the world today and the Kingdom of Swaziland is of the view that Taiwan can contribute successfully to the international community. We therefore urge the United Nations to find a suitable way to allow for Taiwan's meaningful participation in its specialized agencies and mechanisms, including the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC). There is no doubt that the people of Taiwan have a functional need to be included in the UN system, and that their inclusion is in the common interests of the international community as well.

**Mr. President,**

In conclusion, may I say that the Kingdom of Swaziland has confidence in the initiatives already taken towards the renewal of this organization and looks forward to a new dynamic and vibrant working period.

Thank you.