

STATEMENT
of the Head of the Delegation of Turkmenistan at
the 67th Session of the General Assembly of United Nations
(New York, September 27, 2012)

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Distinguished Heads and members of delegations,

I express my sincere gratitude for the honour to speak from this esteemed podium.

First of all, allow me to convey to you and peoples of your countries the greetings and wishes for peace and prosperity from His Excellency, President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov.

Allow me to congratulate the esteemed Vuk Jeremic on his election as President of the 67th session of the UN General Assembly and wish him every success in this impending critical job. I would also like to express appreciation to the esteemed Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser - Chairman of the 66th session for the skillful and effective execution of his duties.

Mr. Chairman,

Today the international community witnesses complex, multifaceted processes in geopolitics, global economy, and humanitarian sphere. Serious environmental problems challenge us with their unprecedented urgency. Global scale issues of energy supplies acquire acute and, without exaggeration, universal importance.

All these require a constructive and effective response on the part of the United Nations and elaboration of appropriate international mechanisms in order to maximize the effective use of political,

financial, organizational and other resources and overcome the existing problems and challenges, enhancing mutual understanding and trust and reaffirmation of the irreversibility of the processes of sustainable development of all the peoples of our planet.

One of the basic conditions for a stable and conflict-free development of the world of today is, for objective reasons, energy security. Turkmenistan as one of the leading suppliers of energy resources that possesses the fourth largest reserves of hydrocarbon resources responsibly and consistently called for the establishment of a stable and reliable system of international energy supplies, elaboration of schemes and patterns of interaction in the global energy markets that are appropriate in view of the modern realities.. We believe that today there is a need for the adoption of the UN level consensus decisions, which would serve as a basis for the creation of universal political and legal mechanisms governing global energy cooperation.

As you know, during previous sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the President of Turkmenistan launched a number of initiatives related to the energy security and mutually beneficial cooperation in the energy sector, the importance of which is confirmed by the realities of modern life. As a step forward with regards to these initiatives Turkmenistan suggests that the UN member-countries consider in great detail the idea of creating an international legal framework that would govern the functioning of energy supply system, taking into due consideration the interests of hydrocarbon producers, transit and recipient nations.

As a first step in this direction during this session we consider it appropriate to prepare a draft resolution of the General Assembly on the establishment of an expert group to develop an appropriate UN multilateral document.

At the same time we look forward to constructive engagement with all UN member-states. We believe that it would be an important

and significant contribution to the identification of common approaches to solving one of the most urgent problems of modern development.

Mr. Chairman,

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development "Rio +20" held in June this year clearly identified the need to consolidate efforts on ecological issues and environmental protection. Speaking at the forum, the President of Turkmenistan noted that at the institutional level today's main objective is to combine and complement the global, regional and national instruments.

It's not a secret that the Central Asian and the Caspian Sea Basin regions are the areas with difficult environmental conditions. We think that the efforts taken up till now with a view to improve them are clearly insufficient. We need a concerted, result-oriented action algorithm that combines the use of scientific, technological, political, diplomatic, administrative and technical measures that would effectively work in this direction. Therefore we propose in cooperation with the UN the establishment of the Regional Centre for technologies related to climate change in Central Asia and the Caspian Basin.

We believe that the appearance of such an entity would enable the countries in these regions to significantly strengthen cooperation in the areas of ecological safety, promote effective coordination of national, regional and international efforts, and will further serve mutual understanding and confidence in achieving the goals of sustainable development.

Mr. Chairman,

Among the issues of international politics Turkmenistan gives a special significance to the problems of peace and security and sustainable development of the planet. In this context, one of the

main challenges facing the international community today is the need for our joint efforts in ensuring non-proliferation and disarmament.

As a party to core international treaties and UN conventions in this field, Turkmenistan intends to continue to provide all possible assistance to the disarmament processes in the world.

We consider that it is relevant to continue multilateral dialogue on validity of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty. We propose that a high-level consultative meeting be held next year under the auspices of the UN to discuss measures aimed at expansion of the international nonproliferation legal framework. The initiative of Turkmenistan has become vital due to the implementation of the practical steps in the framework of the Treaty on a nuclear-free Central Asia. As is known, the agenda of the 67th session of the General Assembly includes the item concerning the Treaty on the Zone Free from Nuclear Weapons in Central Asia.

Our country is ready to actively cooperate with the Office of the Under Secretary-General for Disarmament and participate in a number of initiatives in this regard. Given that further improvement of the relevant UN agencies may be one of the practical steps to implement consistent measures in the sphere of disarmament. In this context, we think it is appropriate to consider the establishment of the UN Sub-regional Centre for Disarmament in Asia.

Mr. Chairman,

The development of a full-scale, focused and long-term cooperation with the United Nations is a strategic choice of Turkmenistan and the priority of its foreign policy. As one of the most important parts of this collaboration, our country is considering its participation in UN activities aimed at ensuring progress and development of mankind, improvement of living standards and welfare of the people, creation of favorable conditions for global economic and social growth, tapping human creativity and encouragement of individual's rights and freedoms.

While pursuing these lofty goals and striving to contribute to the extent possible to their achievement Turkmenistan announced its candidacy for membership of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for the period 2013-2015. This decision is based on the realities of the current development in the political, socio-economic, cultural and other fields, Turkmenistan's active role in international processes, understanding of the responsibilities inherent in the membership of the Economic and Social Council. If elected, Turkmenistan intends to use all available means to improve international cooperation for the effective implementation of sustainable development goals.

At the same time Turkmenistan will actively contribute to the strengthening of ECOSOC, by expanding its role in addressing the pressing issues of the world socio-economic development.

The most important element of the modern system of international relations is cooperation in the humanitarian sphere.

Emphasizing that the humanitarian basket is the basis of the highest principles and values of the community of nations, our country will continue to promote its cooperation with the UN in the field of human rights protection and creation of favorable conditions for the human development.

Based on the fact that the United Nations plays a major role in the all-round development of mankind and taking into account the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals, we consider it as appropriate in the course of the 67th session of the UN General Assembly to consider the inclusion of humanitarian issues in the international agenda of the United Nations as a separate issue.

In this context, Turkmenistan proposes to develop the UN Platform of Action for Humanitarian Affairs designed to become a political and legal basis for the consolidation of the efforts of the international community in the humanitarian dimension. We believe that this holistic approach will allow us to stimulate the activities of the UN agencies, develop long-term solutions in

accordance with international law and the resolutions of the General Assembly and ensure practical implementation of the UN Conventions in the humanitarian sphere.

**Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished heads and members of delegations,**

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that our foreign policy, which is based on the love of peace, neutrality and broad international cooperation, as well as constructive position advocated by our country, are a solid basis for activities of Turkmenistan within the United Nations Organization.

Having said this we will rely on broad cooperation with all countries of the world in order to strengthen and develop a comprehensive international partnership.

Thank you for your attention.