

French Booth 2010 Competitive Exam (Full exam

English: 3 speeches) Speech I.1

Meeting: General Assembly- General debate

Date: 23 September 2009

Duration : 0:7:55 (106 words/minute)

Speaker: Permanent representative of Sweden, on behalf of the European Union

Level: 1

Keywords: Major Economies Forum, DSG (Deputy Secretary-General)

Thank you very much.

Distinguished Heads of State and Government,
Mr President of the General Assembly,
Madam Deputy Secretary-General,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the beginning, there were fifty-one nations. Committed to international peace and security. Sharing the common goal of developing friendly relations among nations. Promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights.

Today, the fifty-one nations of the first General Assembly have become one-hundred and ninety-two. Today, the General Assembly really is the town hall meeting of the world.

On behalf of the twenty-seven Member States of the European Union, I bring a message of cooperation and partnership. A message that our Union is open to the outside world.

Globalization is good. Through globalization, hundreds of millions of people have been lifted out of poverty. Information, ideas and inventions. Goods and services. It all moves more quickly from one country to another.

We prosper from this. It enlightens us. It helps us understand the ways of other parts of the world.

But at the same time, globalization means that one nation's problems will also come knocking at the doors of other nations.

Pandemics, food crises, organized crime. Trafficking in drugs and humans. Terrorism, violent ideologies. No longer limited by borders. No longer only one nation's problem. And so, we have to manage the risks and the threats that follow.

In this work, we need the United Nation's broad-based legitimacy for international actions and norms to coordinate our efforts. And the United Nations, for its part, has to adapt to stay relevant and to be able to address the issues before us. The European Union wishes to contribute to these efforts.

We welcome the declared wish of the United States to work together with others in the multilateral institutions. This opens the door to a promising new era in international cooperation.

We are facing one of the biggest challenges of our time and our generation. Our world has a fever. And the fever is rising.

In the most vulnerable of the world's nations the consequences of climate change will be alarming. Starvation, severe flooding and climate migration will be a reality - even if we keep to the two-degree target set by the UN.

No doubt, developed countries will have to lead the fight against climate change. We will have to reduce emissions by twenty-five to forty per cent from 1990 levels to 2020.

But for emissions to peak by no later than 2020 - for them to be reduced by at least fifty per cent by 2050 and continue to decline thereafter - our efforts alone will not be enough.

The developing countries need our help. They need our help to pay the bill that we, through our emissions, have contributed to.

That is why the European Union last week agreed to start discussions on how much climate financing is needed in developing countries. That is why we are taking concrete steps. That is why we are putting one more brick into the negotiations. And we urge other developed countries to do the same.

At the meeting of the leaders of G8 and Major Economies Forum in Italy this summer there was agreement on the two degree target.

Now, we need to see increased commitment. Concrete mid-term targets by developed as well as developing countries.

If we want our children, and their children, to experience nature as we know it; we must act now. And every nation or group of nations has to do its part.

The EU is willing to do its part.

We will reduce our emissions. We will promote low carbon growth, contribute our fair share of financing and support adaptation worldwide. And we will remain committed to playing a leading role in bringing about a global and comprehensive climate agreement in Copenhagen in December of this year.

What started out as the pursuit of easy money, unhealthy risk-taking and, in some cases, pure greed, escalated this last year into a financial roller-coaster. The effects on both human security and development have been severe.

The European Union will continue to promote global financial stability and sustainable world recovery.

Firmly committed to taking comprehensive, targeted and coordinated action to support developing countries, especially the poorest and the most vulnerable.

Determined to reach a comprehensive agreement of the Doha Round, making sure it contains elements of real value for developing countries, particularly the poorest.

Continuing efforts to lift more people out of poverty in reaching the Millennium Development Goals and to achieve our respective Official Development Assistance targets.

Human rights are universal. Human rights are indivisible.

The European Union is a voice for human rights. We believe in democracy. We believe in the rule of law.

The European Union will continue to call for the worldwide abolition of the death penalty. In all cases. Under all circumstances.

Speech I.2

Meeting: CEIRPP Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Date : 21 January 2010

Duration: 0:07:41 (133 words/min)

Speaker: A representative of the Observer Mission of Palestine at the United Nations

Level : 2

Keywords: Madrid Conference, Arab Peace Initiative, Quartet Roadmap

Excellency Mr. Secretary-General,
Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset allow me to convey Ambassador Mansour's regrets as he is unable to participate in this important meeting to launch the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People's 2010 Program of Work.

On behalf of Palestine, I am thus honored to express our deep appreciation to Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon for joining us today, for the important remarks he has shared with us and for his abiding and principled support for the Palestinian people's quest for the realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination, and for peace and security in our region.

We are deeply appreciative of your commitment to peace and justice for the Palestinian people. In the past year this has included repeated calls to justly address the humanitarian crisis being inflicted on the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, a matter you have emphasized as one of the priorities for the Organization in 2010.

With your consistent calls, as well as those by your Special Representative Mr. Robert Sery, and by numerous other officials throughout the United Nations System, for the opening of Gaza's border crossings, for the regular flow of people and goods and for urgent reconstruction to begin, you have been an outspoken advocate for the Palestinian people in Gaza, who are gravely suffering from the nearly 3-year Israeli blockade in collective punishment of the population and from

the loss, destruction and trauma caused by the Israeli military aggression of last winter, from which they continue to be denied the means to truly recover and rebuild.

Of equal importance have been your firm calls for the cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities in the West Bank, including in occupied East Jerusalem, as you once again stressed this morning, which are seriously threatening the contiguity and viability of the territory and the prospects for achieving the two-state solution for peace.

On this occasion, we also reiterate appreciation for your role as representative of the United Nations in the Quartet where you are custodian of the Charter and the relevant resolutions that constitute the foundations of the peace we have long searched for.

Mr. Secretary-General,

Your presence today and the ongoing work of this Committee are a reaffirmation of the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine until it is resolved in all aspects in accordance with international law. We thus thank you as well for your support of the Committee and its noble efforts in this regard.

In this connection, allow me to express Palestine's profound gratitude to the Chairman, Bureau and all of the members of the Committee for their unwavering support for and their commitment to the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the question of Palestine.

We express appreciation for the Committee's efforts over the past year to raise awareness of the ongoing plight of the Palestinian people and of the pressing need for a just resolution of the conflict.

We also reaffirm our appreciation to the Division for Palestinian Rights, for its support of the Committee's Program of Work, including inter alia through the organization of important international conferences that contribute to the dialogue

and the search for peace and the conduct of the annual training program for capacity-building of the Palestinian Authority staff.

We congratulate the Chairman and Bureau members, the distinguished ambassadors of Senegal, Afghanistan, Cuba and Malta, upon their reelection and we wish them success in their efforts to guide the important work of the Committee in the coming year.

Palestine expresses its full support for the objectives outlined in the Committee's Program of Work for 2010 and reaffirms its readiness to cooperate with the Committee for the achievement of these objectives.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our gathering here today is yet another reaffirmation that the quest of the Palestinian people for peace is indeed the shared quest of the international community.

The foundations of that peace we seek are well known: an end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and other Arab territories that began in 1967, the establishment of a contiguous, viable and independent State of Palestine with East-Jerusalem as its capital, living side by side in peace and security with Israel and all of its neighbors, and a just solution to the Palestine refugee question on the basis of General Assembly resolution 194.

At the same time, the means for achieving such a just peace settlement based on the two-state solution are equally well known: a peace process based on relevant UN resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, the Madrid Terms of Reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet Roadmap.

What is missing is the political will and determination to uphold international law and implement UN resolutions and to demand compliance by Israel, the Occupying Power, with them, as is demanded from all Member States. It is that which would entirely alter the equation in all spheres: the political, the humanitarian, the socioeconomic and the security spheres.

Thus, as we begin yet another year under military occupation, the Palestinian people and their leadership appeal to all members of the international community to fulfill their obligations to uphold and ensure respect for the law. This must include more than declarations of support, as important as they are, and must include the exertion of real, practical efforts to compel Israel to cease its grave breaches and violations and to finally commit to the objective of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace.

Let us therefore renew our commitment to exert all necessary efforts to make this the year of peace for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples, full well knowing that the benefits to the region and beyond will be enormous.

On behalf of Palestine, I thank you.

Speech I.3

Meeting: Security Council on the situation in Afghanistan

Date: 06 January 2010

Duration : 0:07:09 (128 words/min)

Speaker: Representative of New Zealand

Level: 3

Keywords: Special representative of the SG M. Kai Eide, UNAMA, Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT).

Thank you, Mr. President.

New Zealand appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this important and timely discussion and takes this opportunity to congratulate you on assuming the Chair and the new members of this Council.

We thank the Secretary-General for his latest report and Special Representative Kai Eide for his work, for this morning's briefing and, above all, for the role he has played. We wish him well.

While the report is sobering and raises many matters of real concern, we agree that the key priorities must be a more focused and better coordinated international effort, as well as reform of the Afghan electoral process and Government. We affirm that this United Nations has a critical role to play in Afghanistan and will continue to support that role.

Last year, New Zealand reviewed its participation in Afghanistan and reconfirmed its commitment to the provincial reconstruction team that has led work in Bamiyan province since 2003. We also redeployed our Special Forces to Afghanistan during the period President Obama has identified as critical to defeating the insurgency. New Zealand welcomed the 1st of December statement by President Obama, given its emphasis on a coherent and credible pathway forward in Afghanistan. We particularly welcome his focus on increased short-term military capacity to improve stability and security, enhancing the capacity of the Afghan National Army and Police to assume primary security responsibility.

Mindful that the Secretary-General's report calls for a "change of mindset in the international community and the Government of Afghanistan", we also support President Obama's sense of urgency about transferring that security responsibility to local forces and on shifting the focus of international efforts to building civilian capacities that will put Afghanistan on a peaceful development path. Without those commitments, there can be no realistic way forward.

For its part, New Zealand is stepping up its capacity-building with the Afghan National Police in Bamiyan, preparing a pathway for the civilianization of our PRT, and is increasing its ODA budget to underpin those changes. We are establishing an embassy and appointing an ambassador in Kabul to coordinate our efforts with those of our partners including, most importantly, the Afghans themselves, so that when the international troops are drawn down, they leave behind a country capable of managing its own security and the increased humanitarian assistance that nations such as ours have signaled their readiness to provide.

All that represents, Mr. President, a significant commitment for a small country with limited military and other resources. It is a commitment made for good reason. It is made for the people of Afghanistan, but it is also a commitment made in expectation of a meaningful effort and response from President Karzai and his new Administration, when it can finally be formed.

Nothing should disguise the challenge they face. While we welcomed the fact that elections were held, doubts about the probity of the results, about the lack of progress around institution-building, and concerns as to the true depth of the Administration's commitment to anti-corruption measures have sorely tested the capacities of contributing nations to maintain or enhance those contributions. We strongly support President Karzai's moves quickly to address the deep-seated security, governance, corruption, human rights, justice and narcotics challenges facing Afghanistan — all identified in today's report.

It is imperative that the Government delivers tangible improvements to the daily lives of ordinary Afghans. In so doing, it will have the support of the international community, but Mr President, those who put their military in harm's way in the interests of Afghanistan and its people are entitled to see better progress on corruption and governance.

While we strongly support efforts to build a new and peaceful Afghanistan, we look to the Karzai Administration to meet the obligations it has now incurred to the international community. We therefore welcome Britain's lead in coordinating international support through a Conference later this month. We will attend at ministerial level, and hope we quickly reach the stage where meetings to discuss Afghanistan's future can be regularly held in Afghanistan itself. And so we welcome the fact that the next meeting is to be held in Kabul.

Mr. President,

As the Secretary-General's report emphasizes, there is an urgent need to improve governance and give greater confidence to ordinary Afghans that their Administration is working for them, not least in stamping out corruption. The extent of corruption outlined in the report makes it clear that the Administration must address this in all forms and at all levels. For all those who abuse the system, there must be no sanctuaries, no safe havens, no impunity.

Mr. President,

We want Afghanistan, its people, and its Administration to succeed in their endeavors. They have our good wishes, our blessings, and our active commitment. We know they need time and space to rebuild their country, and our contribution is to help provide that. The people of Afghanistan who showed, sometimes risked, their support for democracy in the recent elections, are entitled to see greater probity and better governance as a result. But the military and civilians who risk their lives to work in Afghanistan for this United Nations, for civil society and in provincial reconstruction teams — all to help Afghanistan and its people — are also entitled to see better progress on addressing corruption and governance issues. It is for the Government and people of Afghanistan to decide for themselves how best they should do that, but doing it, Mr President, is the nub of the matter as we see it.