<u>Réunion</u>: Assemblée générale des Nations Unies

<u>Date</u>: 27 septembre 2013

<u>Durée</u>: 6'27" (114 mots/minute)

Orateur: Premier Ministre du Pakistan

<u>Difficulté</u>: \*

## Éléments à fournir:

| Jammu and Kashmir | Jammu-et-Cachemire (État de | l'Inde) |
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I have great pleasure in welcoming the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and invite him to address the General Assembly. Mr Prime Minister.

Mr President,

I stand here today before this Assembly, soon after my country has seen a new dawn. I come before this house in all humility as the elected Prime Minister of Pakistan for the third time. I feel exonerated, as my supporters and I stood firm in our struggle and resolve for democracy.

I am happy to inform the distinguished Delegates that we now have a strong Parliament, an independent judiciary, a free media and a vibrant civil society.

But there is no room for complacency. We cannot lower our guard. Democracy needs constant vigilance and strong institutions. It needs careful nurturing. More importantly, it is not promises but good governance that sustains democracy. My Government has put the people at the centre. We will work to give them peace and security, an environment of growth and development. I am pursuing an inclusive approach for the entire nation.

## Mr President,

Pakistan is an ardent supporter of the United Nations, which is an anchor of peace and a beacon of hope for all nations. The United Nations universal character provides a forum to discuss, evolve and implement global responses to pressing problems of our times. Pakistan upholds international law and promotes international consensus. The security of our world is assured and reinforced by friendly relations between nations and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of States.

The United Nations needs reform, but it should be a reform that reflects the interests of all, not the ambitions of a few. We believe that the Security Council's composition should be made more representative, democratic and equitable, and its work more effective, transparent and accountable. The intended reforms must, however, plan for a dynamic future, not entrench or replicate outdated historical patterns based on privileges. The role and authority of the General Assembly must be fully restored and revitalized. In the past few years, the General

Assembly has regained influence in responding to challenges in regard to peace and security, development and climate change. It is becoming a platform of choice. Yet, it has to go a long way to acquire its full authority.

## Mr President,

To save the world from the scourge of war, we have to continue to strive for a fair and just international order based on rule of law. Festering disputes must be resolved. In this regard, the United Nations has to play a critical role.

The United Nations must continue to remain attentive to the issue of Jammu and Kashmir and the full realization of the right to self-determination of its people. The suffering of the people cannot be brushed under the carpet because of power politics. As in the past, Pakistan calls upon the international community to give an opportunity to the Kashmiris to decide their future peacefully, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions. The issue of Jammu and Kashmir was presented to the Security Council in January 1948, and yet the issue remains unresolved after nearly seven decades.

I have an aspiration for regional peace and stability. I have shared this vision with leaders in our neighborhood. Shortly after assuming office, I received a message of goodwill from the Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh. I extended an invitation to him to engage with us to address all outstanding issues between our two countries, and Prime Minister Singh's response was positive. Our two countries have wasted massive resources in an arms race. We could have used these resources for the economic well-being of our people. We still have that opportunity. Pakistan and India can prosper together; and the entire region would benefit from our cooperation. We stand ready to re-engage with India in a substantive and purposeful dialogue. I am looking forward to meeting Prime Minister Manmohan Singh here in New York to make a new beginning. We have a solid basis to do that. We can build on the Lahore Accord signed in 1999, which contained a road map for the resolution of our differences through peaceful negotiations. I am committed to working for a peaceful and economically prosperous region. This is what our people want and this is what I have long aspired for.