

MESSAGE ON WORLD FOOD DAY

New York, 16 October 2005

On behalf of the General Assembly, I congratulate the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as it celebrates its Sixtieth Anniversary today.

The theme of today's World Food Day is Agriculture and Intercultural Dialogue. This theme highlights both the historical contribution of all civilizations to food production, and the need for all cultures and peoples to come together now to achieve the goal of food for all.

On this twenty-fifth World Food Day, I appeal to all the peoples of the United Nations to support the Millennium Development Goal to reduce extreme poverty and hunger by half so that more than 850 million people can lead a life free from the daily torment of hunger and malnutrition.

Jan Eliasson