



**STATEMENT BY**

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON**

**PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION  
ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE DEVELOPMENT  
OUTCOME OF THE 2005 WORLD SUMMIT**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS  
NEW YORK  
29 JUNE 2006**

Mr Co-Chairs, Distinguished Delegates, Friends,

We are today writing 29 June. In the next few days many of you will leave to go to Geneva and the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council. It is now more than nine months since our leaders adopted the World Summit Outcome. It is high time that we take a decision on how to implement the commitments made at the World Summit on development. Let us not forget that the major part of the Outcome Document dealt with development.

I have pledged at several occasions my commitment to the central role of development in the reform agenda. I had wanted to conclude this resolution a long time ago. I am gratified that we now have reached the final stage and that we, with your help, can adopt the resolution on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit.

You have worked very hard, day and night. The facilitator, Mr Carlos Ruiz, reported to my office Saturday, 24 June, on the progress in the negotiations. There were still some major outstanding issues. I decided, together with my Co-Chairs and the facilitator, to try to find a solution to them in consultation with you. I am grateful to the flexibility and constructive spirit you have shown.

Let me commend you for having set aside your differences to reach an agreement, acceptable to all. The text I am presenting to you today is a result of your efforts, of your imaginative and creative thinking, of your flexibility

and of your ability to find possible ways forward. This text is yours, and I am proud to endorse it.

There are many people in this room that have made this text possible.

I have by my side the two Co-Chairs, Ambassadors Verbeke of Belgium and Diarra of Mali, to whom I would like to express my sincere appreciation to them for steering this process to a successful conclusion. I would like to thank the facilitators, Paul Lolo of Nigeria and Carlos Ruiz of Mexico, for their leadership and tireless efforts to reach compromises. And let us thank the Secretariat for having been at the side of the Co-Chairs and the facilitators at all hours.

I expect that this text in which you have invested so much time and energy is now ripe for a decision. I intend to present the resolution for adoption by the General Assembly, tomorrow, Friday 30 June, in the afternoon. Let us now start translating the words of commitments to action in good faith. And let us do so with the realities in the world before our eyes as well as the millions of people whose lives and future we can and must improve.

Let me conclude by reminding you that we still have to reach an agreement on the resolution on reform of the Economic and Social Council. I had wished that we would have done so before the substantive session of Economic and Social Council had begun. The time will not allow us to do so. There are, as you well know, only a few outstanding issues in the resolution.

I intend to ask the Co-Chairs to be in touch with you after the ECOSOC session in Geneva to come to a conclusion on ECOSOC reform before the end of the 60<sup>th</sup> Session. A strengthened ECOSOC is in the interest of all Member States and crucial for the standing of the economic and social issues on the agenda of the United Nations.

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I have one minor correction to make in the text. In OP 35, third line, the last word “the” before “Climate Change” should be deleted