

**REPÚBLICA DEMOCRÁTICA
DE SAO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE**



**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE**

**Speech delivered by H.E. President
Fradique Bandeira de Melo de Menezes
to the 59th General Assembly of the United
Nations**

**New York, NY
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Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you most warmly on your election as President of the 59th session on the General Assembly, whose proceeding will undoubtedly benefit from your personal qualities and your experience in international relations. Gabon and my country enjoy for long time a very good relationship and cooperation and my delegation wish you success with your work.

May I also thank your predecessor, President Julian Robert Hunte from Sainte — Lucie for the excellent work done.

On behalf of people of Sao Tome and Principe I would like to pay tribute to our Secretary — General, for his relentless

efforts and dedication at the service of the United Nation's goals by promoting peace and development.

Mr. President,

The current session of the General Assembly takes place in a complex international situation. Violence and violation of human rights is mounting and the role of United Nations must be put in evidence and it is a priority other wise the world orders will ~~evitable~~ collapse.

More than ever before, the governments have to give a universal forum like wise the responsibility to rebuild international order based on peace, respect of human rights, security and cooperation for development. The unilateralism must be put aside; we together have to work for better world.

Intolerance, terrorism, occupation, discrimination, organized crime, social injustice to say the least is some sources of open conflicts today.

Religion differences, drug trafficking in some countries are driving people to high level of violence and destruction.

We the people, the United Nations, have to do our best to stop those atrocities otherwise unprotected groups of the society will disappear or the spiral of violence could spread and be out of control. Durfur is an example of discrimination and atrocity. We call Sudan's government to fulfil all recommendation stated in the Security Council's resolution 1556, adopted on 30 July 2004.

Is at any way unacceptable that 50 million people worldwide having become refugees and internally displaced, driven from their homes by war, persecution and human rights abuses.

Now we needed concrete action by the leaders and people to ensure the perpetrators of criminal behave are brought to justice, rebuilding the confidence among people and nations and most of all to address the root causes of the violence.

Mr. President,

Small Island stated will meet in Mauritius to make an assessment from Barbados to Mauritius. Progress in the implantation of the Barbados Programme of Action has been mixed. Key issues will be passed in review and decisions and recommendations will be taken on Climate Change, Natural and environment disasters, Fresh water land resources, waste management, Tourism, energy, transport, Biodiversity, coastal and marine resources.

All issues affecting the small islands from Global warming to ecosystems only can be solved steps by steps if international community increases effectively resources to support the sustainable development of the small islands. We take this opportunity to thanks the international community for all done until today and a special thanks to Government of Mauritius for the efforts done to date for organize the special international conference.

As an island nation, Sao Tome & Principe continues to see our very existence threatened by global warming. Our shorelines erode, our national territory shrinks as the seas rise. Is my small country to end up nothing but a tiny volcanic peak sticking up above the waves with the last of our people clinging to the land left unclaimed by the rising sea? The Kyoto Protocol must be implemented by all for the benefit of all.

Mr. President,

Africa's government launched NEPAD' strategy aims specifically at on optimal mobilization of both Africa and international resources, and the harmonization of these contributions through a partnership based on mutual commitments and balanced interests and responsibilities. Peace, Good Governance, Security and Development, are challenges that all Africa government and people have to face and work to create conditions to reach those. These goals are far away to be reached taking in account the numerous conflicts, destruction and negatives effects of the conflicts. My government will continuous supporting NEPAD and work to create bases for its implementation.

Mr. President,

Most of the countries continuous face a challenge of the HIV/AIDS and other diseases. In some part of Africa

HIV/AIDS is devastating the entire families, societies, cultures and economies. Treatment still expensive, our economy started feeling the negative effects of the disease. Unless additional resources and scientific investment to found the cure of HIV/AIDS comes, hope for progress in Africa is far to reach.

Is not only health problem embrasses poor countries, globalization came for some because few have all conditions to develop trade, commerce and take advantage of new technologies. Last efforts of World Trade Organization (W.T.O) in Geneva gave as an example that those who have too much could make some difference by give away a little to poor countries because we will continuous face discriminatory tariffs and having degraded life.

My country regrets that international relations in some parts of the world have deteriorated to the point where extreme

violence is the daily events, where the destructions is every day life , where human rights are daily violated and the environment has saturated with use and abuse of dangerous weapons.

We regret that refugees and children are also the target in those conflicts. If we don't respect the fundamental rights of the people, development will never be in those places, give a peace a chance for better life.

Mr. President,

The tragedies can not be our destiny like the one we face in Iraq, the Middle East, Bangladesh with flood, in some countries in Africa and else where, are testimony that man kind are going smoothly to face a bigger challenges,

My government think multi-literalism under the framework of United Nations is the only way out that the international community could use to keep hop for last peace and development.

Sao Tome and Principe supports an urgent reform of the Security Council, to fits into a new reality. The Security Council must be democratised with the expansion of permanent members and the veto issue must be addressed.

Terrorism across the globe is destroying, destabilizing governments killing people like in Madrid, Middle East and else where. We are confronting with a dilemma because so far all strategies to fighting this malaise are not producing greater results.

The world is a less secure place today than it was just a year ago. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

continues and non-proliferation treaties notwithstanding. We must ensure the universality of these treaties and the compliance with same under the authority of the Security Council. All countries must open all installations for International Agency for Atomic Energy (I. A. A. E.) for all out inspections and all weapons of mass destruction must be eradicate from our planet.

Mr. President,

My government supports recommendations of Secretary - General Kofi Annan on East Timor. The United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET) is a success that we can't ignore. The good leadership on the country is essential for a consolidation post-conflict and is necessary for international community to continuous supporting a newly independent country.

The universality of our organization must be a fact that all people have to be represented. Taiwan is not. We call international community to bring to the table the case of Taiwan's representation.

Despite its small size Taiwan offers development aid to a large number of countries. Taiwan has all elements to be a active member of the main international organizations look at its economy, trade relations, commerce, finance, applying new technologies and supporting many countries are facts that we can not ignore any more.

Economic embargo is a sever sanction and when is applied without Security Council mandate is a violation of international law. Cuba's people are under such situation, that their development is blocked; we call for end of the unilateral economic embargo against Cuba.

Mr President,

In Sao Tome and Principe, we are working very hard to consolidate our democracy and creating solid base for sound development. Following the agreement signed among the government, international community and the military, those who mounted a coup last year, we organized a National Forum, that brought all segments of our society to a table to change views and draw recommendations in order to avoid more instability' in the country.

At economic field we still organizing the country for a new era, based on oil exploration and production. Our National Assembly passed the law for `Management of Oil revenue ', the money that we will eventually be receiving from oil companies. This is an example that corruption will be fight, new generation will be protected and the country will have enough resources for development.

Mr President,

My government and people of Sao Tome and Principe, based on principles of respect of the soberany of all countries and following the path of dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding among people is appealing to all members of the United Nation to do like wise for better World.

Thank you.