



# REPUBLIC OF NAURU

Statement  
By the  
Head of Delegation

His Excellency the Honourable Ludwig Scotty MP  
President of the Republic of Nauru

At The

GENERAL DEBATE of the  
United Nations General Assembly

Friday, 22 September 2006

New York

**STATEMENT BY H.E. THE HON. LUDWIG SCOTTY M.P.,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU**

**GENERAL DEBATE OF THE 61<sup>ST</sup> UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2006**

MADAM PRESIDENT,  
DISTINGUISHED HEADS OF DELEGATION,  
LADIES & GENTLEMEN

1. THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU CONGRATULATES AND WARMLY WELCOMES YOU MADAM PRESIDENT, ON YOUR ELECTION. NAURU COMMENDS YOUR PLEDGE TO WORK WITH MEMBER STATES TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER WITHIN A TRANSPARENT FRAMEWORK AND WITH RESPECT FOR ALL VIEWS AND POSITIONS. YOU HAVE OUR SUPPORT AND COOPERATION AS YOU LEAD THIS ASSEMBLY IN THE DAYS AHEAD.
2. NAURU CONGRATULATES THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT JAN ELLIASON ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN MINISTER OF SWEDEN, AND FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WORLD SUMMIT OUTCOME DOCUMENT. HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION HAS BEEN CRUCIAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS REFORM PROCESS.
3. WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN AND THANK HIM FOR HIS LEADERSHIP, COURAGE AND VISION OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS.

4. MADAM PRESIDENT, WHILE WE AIM TO REFORM THIS GREAT ORGANIZATION IN LINE WITH THE REALITIES OF THE WORLD, WE CONTINUE TO WITNESS MAJOR UPHEAVALS: CONFLICTS, EXPLOSIONS OF VIOLENCE, NATURAL DISASTERS, TERRORISM, AND THE GIANTS WE HAVE YET TO CONQUER - POVERTY, DISEASE AND HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION.
5. WE MUST ASSURE THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD THAT WE ARE COMMITTED TO FINDING LASTING SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL PROBLEMS WHILE UPHOLDING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS WITH FULL RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.
6. BUT NAURU IS CONCERNED THAT MUCH HAS BEEN SAID, BUT VERY LITTLE DONE.
7. WE MUST THEREFORE BE DOING MORE, AS OPPOSED TO TALKING MORE. AND IMPORTANTLY ALSO, WE MUST BE SEEN TO BE DOING MORE AS OPPOSED TO BEING SEEN TO BE TALKING MORE.
8. AS A SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATE, NAURU'S CONCERNS RELATE PRIMARILY TO DEVELOPMENT.
9. YET, WE HAVE SEEN LITTLE IF ANY ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE OUTCOME OF THE MAURITIUS SUMMIT ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES HELD LAST YEAR; THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN GLOBAL EMISSIONS SINCE THE KYOTO PROTOCOL OF 1997; WE SEE A LOT OF ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT FROM THE MONTERREY CONSENSUS FOR THE WEALTHIER COUNTRIES TO LIFT ODA TO 0.7% OF THEIR GDP; DESPITE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PLEDGES BY THE UNITED NATIONS, WE IN THE PACIFIC HAVE YET TO SEE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF UN OFFICES IN THE SMALLER PACIFIC MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SUCH AS NAURU; DESPITE THIS AUGUST BODY'S PLEDGE FOR UNIVERSALITY AND THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL, WE STILL DENY THE 23 MILLION PEOPLE OF

TAIWAN THEIR RIGHT TO PEACE, AND TO DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT THREAT OF ATTACK, INCLUDING THROUGH THE DENIAL OF THEIR RIGHT TO REPRESENTATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

10. WE SUPPORT THE INCLUSIVITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND REJECT THREATS TO HUMAN DIGNITY, INCLUDING THE DENIAL THAT THE HOLOCAUST EVER OCCURRED TOGETHER WITH ANY CALL FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ANY RESPONSIBLE MEMBER STATE OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

11. MADAM PRESIDENT, THAT IS WHY NAURU WILL JOIN OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES IN PROTESTING AND SEEKING LEGAL REDRESS TO THE VIOLATIONS OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT OCCURRED DURING THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE LAST WEEK. TWO QUESTIONS WERE TO BE DEBATED: A PROACTIVE ROLE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS IN MAINTAINING PEACE AND SECURITY IN EAST ASIA, AND; QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF THE 23 MILLION PEOPLE OF TAIWAN IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

12. THE EMPLOYMENT OF PROCEDURAL TRICKS TO DENY MEMBER COUNTRIES THEIR RIGHT TO DEBATE ONLY BRINGS TO QUESTION THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS – FOR SUCH TRICKS ONLY SERVE TO DENY NAURU AND LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES OUR RIGHT TO BE HEARD - AND, PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY, DEMANDS EVEN MORE THAT WE ADDRESS THE NEED TO REFORM THE UNITED NATIONS.

13. THERE MUST BE A GREATER VOICE OF THE MANY PEOPLES OF THE GLOBE, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD AND THOSE COUNTRIES THAT CAN BETTER REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD. NAURU THEREFORE ECHOES THE WORDS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WHEN HE SAYS: (I QUOTE), "*I BELIEVE VERY STRONGLY IN THE NEED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM AND I HAVE SAID TIME AND TIME AGAIN THAT NO REFORM OF THE UN WILL BE*

*COMPLETE WITHOUT SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM...THEY SHOULD REFORM THE SECURITY COUNCIL BECAUSE IT IS PART OF THE REASON WHY WE HAVE TENSIONS IN THE ORGANIZATION TODAY. BECAUSE QUITE A LOT OF MEMBERS FEEL THAT OUR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE IS ANACHRONISTIC AND WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO HAVE A SITUATION WHERE THE POWER BASE IS PERCEIVED TO BE CONTROLLED BY A LIMITED NUMBER OF FIVE MEMBER STATES", (END QUOTE)*

14. MADAM PRESIDENT, WE BELIEVE WE MUST MOVE QUICKLY TO REFORM THE COUNCIL AND ALSO TO INCLUDE THE PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF JAPAN, BRAZIL, INDIA AND GERMANY.
15. WE ENCOURAGE THAT AS A PART OF THE REFORMS, THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CONSIDERS A MORE BINDING FRAMEWORK BY WHICH THE MANY DECLARATIONS ARISING FROM THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS MANY MEETINGS CAN BE IMPLEMENTED AND MEASURED. CLEARLY, OUR MORAL OBLIGATIONS ARE NOT PRODUCING THE DESIRED RESULTS WE WANT. IT IS TIME TO BUILD A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP WITH A BINDING FRAMEWORK IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES AND AGREEMENTS OF THIS WORLD BODY SUCH AS THE MONTERREY CONSENSUS AND MAURITIUS STRATEGY FOR SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES.
16. WITHOUT A BINDING FRAMEWORK, WE CANNOT RELIABLY ASSURE THE PEOPLES WE ALL REPRESENT THAT WE CAN MAKE TANGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS TO THEIR LIVELIHOODS.
17. MADAM PRESIDENT, THROUGH THE MILLENNIUM DECLARATION WE PLEDGED TO A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP AND COMMITTED TO, "SPARE NO EFFORTS" IN REDUCING POVERTY.
18. HOWEVER, OUR INTENTION TO "SPARE NO EFFORTS", HAVE YET TO MAKE A DIRECT IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOSE WE MUST PROTECT. IT IS TIME TO REINFORCE THOSE MECHANISMS THAT MEASURE THE

DEGREE TO WHICH AID ALLOCATION IS MEETING THE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

19. AMONG OTHER THINGS, WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE STANDARD OF TRANSPARENCY IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND ITS IMPLICATIONS. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE ROLE OF NGOS AND CIVIL SOCIETY CAN SUPPORT DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY AND MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.
20. MADAM PRESIDENT, WE BELIEVE THAT EACH DEVELOPING COUNTRY HAS A PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT.
21. 2005 MARKED A SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MY COUNTRY WHEN WE PRESENTED OUR FIRST NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AT OUR FIRST DONOR ROUNDTABLE MEETING.
22. OUR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IS A PARTNERSHIP DOCUMENT.
23. IT WAS FORMULATED BY COMMUNITY LEADERS, CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE GOVERNMENT OF NAURU AND STATES THE NATIONAL VISION. IT OUTLINES OUR PRIORITIES AND STAGES TO REACH THOSE GOALS WITHIN A 20 YEAR FRAMEWORK.
24. WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE OUR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS. THEY HAVE GIVEN TANGIBLE ASSISTANCE WHICH HAS IMPROVED THE LIVES OF MY PEOPLE. HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL DISADVANTAGED BY OFFERS OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WHICH COME WITH UNREALISTIC CONDITIONS ATTACHED. IN SOME CASES, THIS ASSISTANCE IS USED AS A TOOL OF INTERVENTIONIST FOREIGN POLICY. THIS DOES NOT PLACE HUMAN PRIORITIES AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA.

25. FOR ANY FRAGILE DEVELOPING STATE, DELAYED ASSISTANCE ONLY CREATES A PERCEPTION OF FAILURE AND INCOMPETENCE AND LEADS TO POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY.
26. MY DELEGATION IS DISAPPOINTED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS' INTENTION TO EXPAND ITS PRESENCE IN NAURU AND OTHER PACIFIC COUNTRIES CONTINUES UNFULFILLED. THE PURPOSE OF SUCH PRESENCE WAS TO ACHIEVE THE MDGs AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES. WE CALL ON THE UNITED NATIONS TO RECOGNIZE THESE URGENT NEEDS AND TO ACT WITH CERTAINTY AND A REALISTIC TIMETABLE.
27. MADAM PRESIDENT, MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT GOOD GOVERNANCE YIELDS GOOD RETURNS.
28. NAURU IS EMERGING FROM PREVIOUS GOVERNANCE PROBLEMS DUE TO WEAKNESS IN OUR CONSTITUTION ADOPTED AT OUR INDEPENDENCE. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PROVISIONS UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS DEMOCRACY FUND THAT WILL FACILITATE THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS FOR A REVISION OF OUR CONSTITUTION. THAT PROCESS IS CRITICAL TO THE POLITICAL STABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUTURE GOVERNMENTS.
29. MADAM PRESIDENT, IN THE SUMMIT OUTCOME DOCUMENT, WE AGREED ON MEASURES AIMED AT PROTECTING OUR COMMON ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING A CALL FOR A MORE COHERENT INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO ADDRESS THE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES OF TODAY. WE WOULD ENCOURAGE, FOR INSTANCE, REVISITING THE CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDA TO INSERT MORE URGENCY INTO ACTION AS OPPOSED TO PLEDGES.
30. IN THIS REGARD, WE ALSO WELCOME THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ESTABLISHMENT OF A HIGH-LEVEL PANEL ON UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE COHERENCE.

31. NAURU ALIGNS ITSELF WITH INTERVENTIONS MADE BY LEADERS OF THE PACIFIC NATIONS WHO HAVE TAKEN THE FLOOR BEFORE ME ON THE CONCERNS AND CHALLENGES OF PACIFIC ISLAND STATES.
32. AS ISLAND STATES, WE ARE VULNERABLE WITH OUR REMOTE AND SMALL POPULATIONS TO THE FORCES OF NATURE.
33. WE ARE, AS ISLAND STATES, AFFECTED BY FACTORS SUCH AS LACK OF MANPOWER AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY, WEAK INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY, LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND ALSO A LACK OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT WITHOUT INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTALLY AND AFFORDABLE TECHNOLOGIES INCLUDING NEW AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOURCES. OUR CHALLENGES ARE FURTHER INTENSIFIED BY THE LACK OF COMMITMENT FROM THE UNITED NATIONS TO SUPPORT OUR DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS.
34. WE HOPE THAT THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL'S REPORT WILL RECOGNISE THESE SPECIAL CHALLENGES AND PROPOSE REALISTIC SOLUTIONS.
35. MADAM PRESIDENT, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT THRIVE IN A WORLD WITHOUT PEACE AND SECURITY.
36. WE MUST CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS IN RESOLVING CONFLICTS AND THREATS OF TERRORISM THROUGH PREVENTION AND EFFECTIVE POLITICAL SOLUTIONS.
37. MADAM PRESIDENT, THE PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS CONTINUES TO POSE A THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN OUR REGION. MY DELEGATION SHARES THE VIEW OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN HIS REPORT THAT, "THESE WEAPONS MAY BE SMALL, BUT THEY CAUSE MASSIVE DESTRUCTION".
38. NAURU IS GRAVELY CONCERNED THAT THE 2006 UNITED NATIONS



CONFERENCE TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS ENDED WITHOUT AGREEMENT ON FURTHER MEASURES TO COMBAT THIS PROBLEM.

39. IF IT IS SAID THAT, "ONE WHO IS FAITHFUL IN THE SMALL THINGS, WILL ALSO BE FAITHFUL IN THE BIGGER THINGS", THEN HOW CAN WE PROGRESS ON THE ELIMINATION OF WEAPONS "ADAPTABLE TO MASS DESTRUCTION" WHILE FAILING TO AGREE ON THE ISSUE OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS?

40. FINALLY, MADAM PRESIDENT, "CAN TWO WALK TOGETHER, EXCEPT THEY BE AGREED?" LET US REFLECT ON THIS PASSAGE FROM AMOS AS WE RENEW OUR PARTNERSHIP OF COMMITMENT TO, "SPARE NO EFFORT".

41. MAY GOD BLESS THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU AND MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED NATIONS.

42. THANK YOU MADAM PRESIDENT.