

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Sultanate of Oman



سلطنة عمان

Statement

Of

H.E. Minister Sayyid Badr Bin Hamad AlBusaidi

**Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry
of the Sultanate of Oman**

Before the

**Sixty-Second Session of the General Assembly
of the United Nations**

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In the name of God, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful

**Your Excellency Syrgian Karem
President of the General Assembly,**

It gives me great pleasure at the outset to extend my warmest congratulations to you and your friendly country, the Republic of Macedonia, on your assumption to the presidency of the 62nd General Assembly. We are confident that your vast diplomatic experience will help us achieve desired objectives and will steer the assembly to a successful conclusion.

Let me also pay tribute to your predecessor, Sheikha Haya Al Khalifa, from the brotherly kingdom of Bahrain, for the perfect manner in which she conducted the work of the previous session with wisdom, capability, and knowledge.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate His Excellency Ban Ki-moon on his appointment as United Nations Secretary General, and we are confident that he will render valuable services to this organization, with his vast experience in both political and diplomatic arenas. I assure him the readiness of the delegation of my country to provide all that is necessary to help him perform his responsibilities and we wish him every success.

I would like also to praise Kofi Annan for all the efforts that he made to develop the work in this organisation during his period as a Secretary General.

Mr. President

In every session of the General Assembly, we are given the opportunity to express our interests and concerns regarding various regional and international issues.

I would like here to point out that the efforts exerted by the United Nations have helped build good understanding, for the cause of solving international difficulties, one of which, of course, is the issue of the Middle East.

Regardless of the fact that efforts exerted on Palestine, Iraq, Darfur, Somalia, and other areas have so far not made it possible to reach conclusive solutions, these efforts are a positive signal, which demonstrates the willingness of the international community to honour its responsibilities to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, by establishing a Palestinian state living in peace side by side with Israel.

The withdrawal of Israel from Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, the establishment of a Palestinian state, and the withdrawal of Israel from the Syrian Golan heights and Shabaa farms, will extend security and stability in the Middle East region, and will encourage cooperation between the countries and peoples of the region.

We sense that there are positive indicators, reflected by new conviction at the level of the political leadership and society in Israel, on the necessity to reach a peaceful solution, based on the resolutions of the United Nations, in order to end decades of conflict in the Middle East region.

It is necessary to note here that Arab countries have confirmed on many occasions their conviction that achieving peace with Israel, based on

justice and equality, relies on the withdrawal of Israel to the borders of 1967, is a strategic choice.

We call upon the international community, especially the superpowers, to support and advance such positive convictions within Israel and the Arab countries for the sake of achieving peace.

Mr. President

Iraqi blood continues to be spilt. However, we consider the expansion of the new responsibilities of the United Nations in Iraq, in accordance with Security Council resolution number 1770, to be a positive step that we stand for and support.

In this respect, we urge our brothers in Iraq, especially the Iraqi government, to move from the stage of dispute to the stage of problem solving, on the basis of the national interest.

On another front, we feel optimistic towards the sincere efforts exerted by the government of Sudan and the African Union in order to reach a political solution among the Sudanese parties in Darfur.

We support the agreement signed by the three parties, the government of Sudan, the United Nations, and the African Union, on supporting African military forces and deployment of more troops in Darfur, to restore security, and achieve success in the negotiations between the government of Sudan and the opposition groups in Darfur.

Somalia, **Mr. President**, still suffers from a civil war that cost the lives of thousands and displaced hundreds of thousands of its people. We believe that there is no way out of this crisis except through reconciliation

between all Somali groups. We believe that the international community has a major responsibility to help Somalia recover its unity and security. In order for the help of the international community to be effective, we urge our brothers in Somalia, from all categories and groups, to be decisive and to help those who try to help them.

We have always welcomed the existing cooperation between the friendly Islamic Republic of Iran and the International Atomic and Energy Agency. We see hope and opportunities on the horizon for a peaceful solution that guarantees the right of Iran to benefit from peaceful nuclear technology, while resolving the worries of the international community.

Mr. President

All human beings are partners on this earth, and we have to work together to build it, develop and maintain its resources. Therefore, it is important for the International Community to look at what is happening today in all of the continents from extraordinary weather conditions as hurricanes and floods, the erosion and loss of arable land, has caused huge human and economic losses, displacing hundreds of thousand of peoples from their homes, and damaging necessary medical and other essential services

While we praise the vital role played by the United Nations in this respect, and for organising the high level meeting on climate change that was held on September 24th, We urge the international community to put appropriate steps and solutions in place in order to confront these challenges.

The International Community is called upon, more than any time before, to conduct ecological and scientific studies to face the dangers posed by

such phenomena, in order to maintain equality and ecological diversity, which is a necessity if life is to continue on this planet.

Hence, we urge all to benefit from new technological and electronic developments, in combating pollution and conserving the environment and biological diversity.

We welcome the Millennium Development Goals initiative, and are happy to endorse the recent call for action, along with many countries around the world.

We also welcome the convening of the high level dialogue on cooperation between religions and cultures, scheduled to be held within the margins of this session, on October 4th and 5th, and we hope that the meeting will adopt a view of the future that focuses on the positive aspects, arising from understanding between religions and cultures. Such understanding should be based on mutual respect of all religious beliefs and cultures.

In closing, **Mr. President**, we wish this session every success, so that we may come out with a vision, which defines the road for the future, in the service of mankind, renewing the pacts between member states, and also renewing the commitments of us all, to adhere to United Nations resolutions, with respect for the provisions of its Charter.

Thank you