

27 May 2003

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Jan Kavan,
President of the 57th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Closing of the 6th International Nonstop Reading Marathon**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

You have heard the last reader of our reading marathon for today. Or rather the last reader of the United Nations part of the marathon, because so far the Marathon still continues at different places today and tomorrow. I hope that you have enjoyed the content and performance of all the readers you have heard today. It was wonderful in particular to have the participation of so many small countries.

I was very pleased to have seen many friends and colleagues performing and reading with such enthusiasm. I also hope that the chosen literature was of interest to you and this event would provoke a desire of the listeners to read one or more of the books you have heard about today.

I hope that you have enjoyed the atmosphere of this event, which was not only “high-level” but also at “an all inclusive level”. And of course it is clear that literature is of interest to all the people around the world and I am grateful that participants from all corners of the world have taken part in this noble undertaking, to pay tribute to: Life in Truth – Homage to Václav Havel.

Thank you.