

24 October 2007

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Srgjan Kerim,  
President of the 62nd Session of the General Assembly,  
at the United Nations Day Concert**

Mr. Secretary-General, Mayor Oh Se-Oon, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests,

The tradition of celebrating United Nations Day with a Concert is a powerful reminder of our common desire to find harmony and oneness in diversity. We should cherish the opportunity to share with the Members of this Assembly, the cultural treasures of our nations, as an offering of peace in the turbulent times in which we live.

The United Nations must serve and preserve our highest human potential for centuries to come, much in the same way that the works of Verdi, Puccini and Brahms - that we will enjoy this evening - have inspired and shall continue to resonate with future generations.

While it is essential that we respond to the realities of the day, the actions of the UN must be guided by longer-term wisdom, solidarity, and justice. Our work is for posterity, and we should be mindful of our legacy.

On the occasion of this, the 62nd United Nations Day, let us pause to reflect on how we are fulfilling our mission and how we can strengthen our efforts by reaffirming our personal convictions.

I would like to thank the Government and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea, the Mayor of Seoul, Mr. Oh Se-hoon, the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and Maestro Chung Myung-whun, for joining us on this day of celebration and reflection.

Through music, we find hope for a new culture of international relations. It is possible to overcome discord, by honoring our own and each other's freedom, equality, creativity, and shared responsibility to humanity.

Thank you, Kamsahamnida.