



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13 August 2010

Excellency,

I would like to inform you that I am convening a plenary meeting of the General Assembly on Thursday, 19 August 2010 to consider the humanitarian situation resulting from the floods in Pakistan.

A series of natural disasters in recent weeks, notably in Asia, has caused heavy loss of life, displacement and damages to homes, livelihoods, environment and infrastructure. The international community stands in solidarity with the affected populations.

The world has been shocked in particular by the immensity and the scale of disaster and the ensuing humanitarian challenges caused by heavy rains and unprecedented floods in Pakistan. In this evolving tragedy, still in the middle of the monsoon season, an estimated 14 million people have already been affected, in what has been termed as one of the most challenging disasters any country has faced in recent years.

The international community is stepping forward in support of the efforts of the Government and the people of Pakistan. The United Nations and many Member States are already providing emergency relief and assistance on ground. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has launched an initial appeal for \$459 million for immediate relief. I call on all Member States to contribute to this effort. Time is of the essence in saving lives and reaching out to the affected populations with the required assistance. More needs to be done now in this emergency phase, while a much greater and sustained commitment and support would be required for long term rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The General Assembly meeting will be an opportunity to express solidarity and to further mobilize the support of Member States and the international community for Pakistan. I am sure that the world body will shoulder its responsibility in responding to the situation in a timely manner including through the adoption of a resolution.

I count on your participation and collective support for this effort.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Adbussalam Treki', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ali Adbussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the
United Nations
New York