

17 January 2010

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,
President of the 64th Session of the General Assembly,
at the latest developments following the earthquake in Haiti**

Statement attributable to the Spokesperson of the President of the General Assembly

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki is deeply saddened by the heavy loss of life and widespread devastation resulting from the catastrophic earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January. On behalf of all Member States, the President of the General Assembly reiterates his sympathy for and solidarity with the people and Government of Haiti on this unprecedented humanitarian disaster.

President Treki is saddened by the news confirming the death of the top leadership of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), namely the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Haiti, Hédi Annabi of Tunisia, his Deputy Luiz Carlos da Costa of Brazil and the Acting Police Commissioner, Doug Coates of Canada. These three remarkable civil servants died tragically alongside other brave national and international staff. Their sacrifice in the line of duty will not be in vain. Dr. Treki presents his condolences to Member States whose nationals have lost their lives in the earthquake. His heart goes out to all those in Haiti and other countries who lost relatives, friends and colleagues.

President Treki is encouraged by the relentless commitment of the UN system under the leadership of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Dr. Treki is heartened by the resolve shown by Member States and the international community during the emergency plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 13 January. In this regard, he is encouraged by the extraordinary efforts of the international community which have been greatly boosted by the strong contribution of the United States and other Member States. Dr. Treki is also appreciative of the role being played by President Barack Obama and by former Presidents William J. Clinton and George W. Bush in further mobilizing resources and good will. The President of the General Assembly is very grateful to civil society organizations, personalities and NGOs for fundraising for and the delivery of much needed assistance, search and rescue operations, water, food, shelter, first aid and emergency relief.

The General Assembly remains seized of the situation and will consider possible further action in support of the international efforts in Haiti.

The President of the General Assembly salutes the resilience of the people of Haiti whose courage should be matched by the continued commitment of the entire international community.