

6 May 2010

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,  
President of the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
At the General Assembly Plenary Meeting on the Occasion of the  
Sixty-Fifth Anniversary of the End of the Second World War**

*Statement Delivered by H.E. Mr. Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamad - Acting President of the United Nations General Assembly*

Excellencies  
Ladies and Gentlemen

We gather today to mark the sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. As we celebrate the end of one of the deadliest conflicts in human history, we also reflect on the immeasurable human cost of war. We are reminded, yet again, that we need to intensify our efforts to settle all disputes by peaceful means, and reinforce our international, regional and sub-regional mechanisms in order to better tackle the threats and challenges we face today. Collectively, and with the needed political will, we can reinforce international peace and security around the globe, and ensure a better future for the coming generations.

The General Assembly by its resolution 64/257 unanimously decided to hold a special solemn meeting to commemorate all victims of war. More than six decades ago, the wars of aggression claimed the lives of more than sixty million people. Civilians made up more than half of those who lost their lives during the war. Sixty-five years later, we honour those who fought to restore peace and freedom.

The end of the Second World War united victors and survivors in their desire for a better world. World leaders agreed never again to allow such atrocities to take place. Some six weeks after the end of the Second World War, the United Nations was established “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war”. The United Nations was founded on the promise of peace and friendly relations among nations. Maintaining international peace and security remains the principal purpose of the United Nations. We are reminded today that there are still armed conflicts in the world and that civilians continue to pay a heavy price in armed conflicts.

The international community has strived to achieve progress towards reconciliation, cooperation and the promotion of democratic values, human rights and fundamental freedoms. We must renew this commitment. We must continue our path towards a world that reigns with peace, security and prosperity for all. Today’s meeting is an excellent opportunity to renew our resolve to achieve this goal.

Thank you.