

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY LE PRESIDENT DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE

25 October 2011

Statement of H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly, at the Opening of te Informal Plenary Meeting on the G20 Summit

His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ambassador Jean-David Lévitte, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and gentlemen,

The world, particularly the global economy, is increasingly complex, mutually interdependent and interconnected. Major issues are no longer contained within borders – what affects one nation affects us all. This is particularly true for the world economic and financial crisis.

Tackling the crisis therefore can only be accomplished through a united global partnership, based on open dialogue and close collaboration. As the centre of global decision-making, the General Assembly must lead the consolidation of this partnership.

This Assembly must continue to encourage dialogue and cooperation with all key stakeholders, Member States, international financial institutions, regional organizations, the private sector, civil society and influential informal groups, such as the Group of 20.

The General Assembly has worked to improve the complementarity and mutual reinforcement between its deliberations and those of the G-20. I intend to build on this momentum and carry it further.

Therefore, I hope that Member States will take the opportunity to express their views on issues of relevance, such as the agenda for the upcoming G20 Summit.

Today's exercise will also provide the Secretary-General with important inputs for his participation in the discussions in Cannes.

Given the interactive nature of this dialogue, may I remind you to please keep your interventions brief and focused so we can use the limited time available to us in the most effective, collaborative manner possible.

Thank you.