

4 June 2012

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser,
President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly Debate on the Report
of the Secretary-General: “Follow-up to Resolution 64/291 on Human
Security”**

Your Excellency Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this formal plenary meeting to consider the Report of the Secretary-General titled, “Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 64/291 on human security.”

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Secretary-General for this important report.

I would also like to thank the Special Adviser on Human Security, Mr. Yukio Takasu, for his efforts in consulting widely with Member States. My thanks also go to Member States for their valuable contributions.

Excellencies,

Concerns for human security are not new.

Civilizations, past and present, have placed the survival, livelihood and dignity of their peoples at the forefront of their aspirations.

Our world now, however, is becoming increasingly interlinked and major events tend to impact human insecurities within and across countries.

The greatest threats facing the world today cannot be solved in isolation.

We are recognising more and more that the well-being, livelihood and dignity of people are fundamental to the long-term security, peace and development.

People’s aspirations are routinely frustrated and left unrealised when they are faced with sudden economic and financial crises, natural disasters, violent conflicts, as well as with other adversities, such as, human trafficking, health challenges and massive displacements.

These threats can also evolve into broader and more intractable crises that all too often move from the national and regional levels to become international security challenges.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The contemporary challenges facing us today are the very issues that we have at the top of our agenda in the General Assembly.

As we have noted during recent deliberations on these issues, the multi-dimensional nature of contemporary challenges require more holistic, integrated and sustainable solutions.

It is in this context that the United Nations can serve in addressing the broader issues surrounding human security.

People's insecurities are interconnected across the three pillars of security, development and human rights.

There is an urgent need to bring policies and institutions together in a far more effective way than the stand-alone or fragmented responses that we see.

Addressing human security requires that we bring together those dealing with these three pillars of the Organisation to advance comprehensive and integrated solutions that are focused on people, their protection and empowerment.

In this way, we can address the root causes of vulnerabilities.

So, human security provides a viable framework to bring our various approaches into a coherent and concerted effort that puts people at the forefront of decision-making.

This dynamic and practical framework will recognize the need for differentiation based on varying contexts.

It capitalizes on our comparative advantages, bringing about better targeted, better coordinated and more cost-effective responses.

This calls for nationally-driven solutions that are embedded in local realities. It should strengthen the capacities and resilience of the Governments, communities and individuals.

And, with its focus on prevention, addressing human security in this strategic manner, will compel us to be proactive.

Excellencies,

In conclusion, let me commend the work that has been done so far to advance the agenda of human security.

But now, we must take a momentous step forward and strive to achieve consensus on a common understanding of the notion of human security and how it can best be applied to United Nations activities.

This should be able to move policies and actions towards new and more sustainable considerations and more effective international collaboration.

With human security strengthened, I believe, people can reach their full potential, thrive in the present and build towards a future that is more peaceful and prosperous for all.

I wish you fruitful deliberations.

Thank you.