THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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2 February 2015

Statement of H.E. Mr. Sam Kahamba Kutesa, President of the 69th Session of the General Assembly, at the Tribute to H.E. Mårten Grunditz, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to deliver a statement on behalf of H.E. Sam K. Kutesa, President of the General Assembly on the passing of H.E. Mårten Grunditz, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations.

Esteemed Colleagues,

Today, we pay tribute to Ambassador Grunditz, whose passing last week deeply saddened the United Nations community.

I had the privilege of interacting and working with Ambassador Grunditz over the last several months. I know I speak for many of us when I say he will be greatly missed.

The Ambassador's work here at the United Nations spanned nearly five years and leaves behind an indelible legacy. Ambassador Grunditz had a genuine interest in many issues central to the Organization's work; including, development, peacekeeping, humanitarian issues and human rights.

Ambassador Grunditz took a holistic view on international affairs. He had a strong interest in broader peacebuilding issues and served as Chair of the Liberia Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission. He also believed strongly in the importance of strengthening cooperation between regional organizations and the United Nations.

The Ambassador worked tirelessly on issues related to the rights of vulnerable persons, including those with disabilities and children. Just this past November he helped organize a high-level meeting commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

In closing, I wish to convey my sincere condolences to the bereaved family, the Government and people of Sweden.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.