



REPUBLIC OF NAURU

Statement
By the
Head of Delegation

His Excellency the Honourable Ludwig Scotty MP
President of Republic of Nauru

At The
High Level Plenary Meeting of the
United Nations General Assembly

Thursday, 15 September 2005

New York

STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY HON. LUDWIG SCOTTY MP,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU
HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY MEETING OF THE 60TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
SEPTEMBER 2005

MR. PRESIDENT,
DISTINGUISHED HEADS OF DELEGATION,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU CONGRATULATES AND WELCOMES YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, ON YOUR ELECTION. WE HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT YOU WILL CONDUCT THE AFFAIRS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

NAURU ALSO WISHES TO CONGRATULATE THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY MR. JEAN PING, FOR COURAGEOUSLY AND SUCCESSFULLY RISING TO THE MANY CHALLENGES THAT THIS HIGH OFFICE DEMANDS.

MR. PRESIDENT,

SIXTY YEARS AGO, THE UNITED NATIONS WAS CREATED BY MAN TO SERVE THE HUMAN RACE. TODAY, THE FAMILY OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAS GROWN TO A TOTAL OF 191 DIVERSE MEMBER STATES - ALL BOUND WITH THE COMMON PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE WELLBEING AND DIGNITY OF MANKIND AND ENSURING EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL PERSONS AND FOR ALL NATIONS.

INDEED, NAURU IS PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE EACH AND EVERY MEMBER STATE, AS WELL AS THE SECRETARIAT, FOR THE MANY

ACHIEVEMENTS IN UPHOLDING AND PROGRESSING THE FOUR PILLARS OF UNITED NATIONS, NAMELY; PEACE, SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

AT THE SAME TIME I WISH TO REMIND US THAT WE CANNOT BECOME COMPLACENT BUT MUST REMAIN VIGILANT AND TRUE IN OUR EFFORTS TO ENSURE THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF OUR PEOPLE. FOR THERE IS A LONG WAY TO GO YET AND THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT FACE US IN THIS NEW MILLENIUM ARE MUCH MORE CHALLENGING AND COMPLEX.

MR. PRESIDENT,

THROUGH ADOPTION OF THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN 2000, LEADERS REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY FOR ALL. WHILST THERE HAS BEEN POSITIVE GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN SOME ASPECTS OF THE WORLD, OTHERS, PARTICULARLY UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES LIKE NAURU, HAVE NOT BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL. INDEED, MY COUNTRY CONTINUES TO REAP THE POOR CROP OF POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TURMOIL RESULTING FROM THOSE YEARS OF POOR LEADERSHIP AND MISMANAGEMENT.

ALTHOUGH MY GOVERNMENT IS STRONGLY COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HAS BEGUN TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE, COMBAT CORRUPTION, AND PUT IN PLACE RESPONSIBLE LEGISLATION TO UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW AND ENSURE TRANSPARENCY, I WILL READILY ADMIT THAT NAURU REQUIRES URGENT ASSISTANCE TO RECOVER AND STABILISE ITS ECONOMY. HENCE, WE WELCOME THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAURITIUS STRATEGY

WHICH RECOGNISES AND ADDRESSES THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND VULNERABILITIES OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES SUCH AS OURS.

WE URGE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO UNDERSTAND OUR DIRE NEED. WE CALL ON DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO MEET THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND RISE TO THE CHALLENGE OF MEETING THE 0.7% OF GNP TARGETED FOR ODA AS REAFFIRMED IN THE 2002 MONTERREY CONSENSUS. WE FURTHER IMPLORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE THIS ASSISTANCE, WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY ENABLE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO BECOME SELF-SUSTAINABLE AND WILL IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF MANY.

MR. PRESIDENT,

NAURU CANNOT STRESS ENOUGH ITS DESIRE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY. NAURU ALSO RECOGNISES THAT THERE CAN BE NO TRUE PEACE AND SECURITY IF THERE IS NO PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS. AND THE RULE OF LAW AND DEMOCRACY. HENCE, WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO TURN A BLIND EYE TOWARDS THE WELFARE OF THE 23 MILLION PEOPLE WHO LIVE ON THE ISLAND OF TAIWAN. WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE PEACEFUL DIALOGUE TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT THAT AFFECTS NOT ONLY THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION BUT ALSO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

NAURU ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IN TODAY'S EVER-CHANGING AND GLOBALIZED WORLD, THERE ARE MANY SERIOUS THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND PEACE. THESE THREATS NOT ONLY REQUIRE OUR URGENT AND COLLECTIVE ACTION, BUT ALSO A MORE CONCERTED AND DETERMINED RESPONSE. THUS, WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITED NATIONS SO THAT IT CAN MEET THE FULL

RANGE OF CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME. IN THIS RESPECT, WE WELCOME THE CREATION OF A HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AND SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO INCLUDE THE PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF GERMANY, INDIA, JAPAN AND BRAZIL. FURTHERMORE, WE APPLAUD THE ONGOING REFORM MEASURES CARRIED OUT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN ORDER TO MAKE THE UN SYSTEM MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT.

MR. PRESIDENT,

ALLOW ME TO CONCLUDE MY REMARKS IF I MAY, BY POSING A QUESTION TO US ALL. HOW MUCH LONGER CAN WE CONTINUE TO REAFFIRM AND RENEW OUR COMMITMENTS TO OUR PEOPLE BEFORE THEIR HOPES FOR DEVELOPMENT, PEACE, SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE REALIZED?

PROVERBS TEACHES US THAT "WHOSO BOASTETH HIMSELF OF FALSE GIFT IS LIKE CLOUDS AND WIND WITHOUT RAIN".

MR. PRESIDENT,

WE, THE LEADERS OF THIS WORLD, HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS - TO RE-VISIT PAST COMMITMENTS AND ENSURE THEY ARE IMPLEMENTED. LET US PUT A STOP TO FALSE HOPES AND EMPTY PROMISES. LET US, INSTEAD, PUT ACTION TO OUR WORDS AND THEREBY RAIN SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS TO OUR WORLD AND ITS PEOPLE.

MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED NATIONS IN THESE DELIBERATIONS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW FOR PEOPLES OF THIS EARTH.

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT.