



Check against delivery

STATEMENT

by H.E. Mr. Elyor Ganiev

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan

at the High-Level Plenary Meeting
of the Sixtieth Session of the United Nations General Assembly

New York, 16 September 2005

**Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Heads of States and Governments,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am honored to address on behalf of the Republic of Uzbekistan the General Assembly's jubilee session and greet the heads and representatives of states who have gathered here, and also wish every success for the work of the session.

Five years ago the Millennium Summit defined the Development Goals aimed at comprehensive improvement of human life. As we summarize the initial results of implementation of this action programme one has to admit the occurrence of sluggishness in addressing those Goals, fulfilling the accepted obligations, and also lack of necessary attention to the needs and realities of the developing nations.

Uzbekistan puts every effort for a maximum realization of this document and calls upon the international community to spare a serious attention to the proposals of the Secretary General in this field and support them with their concrete actions.

In our view the recommendations by the Secretary General on reforming and renewing the activity of the General Assembly, ECOSOS, and Secretariat, as well as establishment of Peacebuilding Commission are well-timed. The latter proposal is especially urgent in the light of deepening tendency of expanding conflict zones on our planet. Worrying tendency is also seen in inability of international community to take practical measures on conflict preventing and dealing with the reasons that which lead to conflicts and crisis, standoffs and confrontations in the contemporary world.

Particularly important is also to address the current contradictions with regard to reforming the Security Council. This body must truly reflect fair geographical and regional representation of the member-states and become more balanced and just. The decision to be taken on this long delayed problem must increase, in our view, the role and work efficiency of the highest UN body, and not further thrust it into more failure and standoff.

We do not see a need for transformation of the UN Commission on Human Rights into a Council, which might be used for selective purposes of certain influential powers and groups as a tool to advance the interests of certain countries at the expense of the others.

Distinguished Assembly,

Today the unfolding developments in Central Asia clearly demonstrate the interlacing of many negative processes, which in one way or another are also characteristic for the rest of the world. The ongoing systemic merge of terrorism, extremism, separatism, and drugs trafficking are apparent.

While talking about terrorism, the topic that has now become the utmost urgent, and has always been accentuated by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan from this podium since 1993, I would like to dwell upon the following:

We are convinced that terrorism cannot be defeated only through annihilating and neutralizing separate terrorist groups or terrorists. Concrete results can be achieved only when nourishing ideological centers, financing and organizing forces of international terrorism are eradicated and common principal approaches are elaborated to tackle this most dangerous phenomenon of modern world.

In this regard, we deem it timely and essential the proposals on taking preventive measures within the UN framework with regard to persons and organizations that provoke extremism and terrorism. The tragic events in Beslan, Madrid, London, Sharm al-Sheikh and in our region have once again reminded us about the necessity for a critical assessment and review of the practice of international cooperation on countering this evil. We do not have the right to be slow as it has been the case with establishment of a single UN structure on the fight against terrorism.

We call upon the international community to join their efforts against terrorism utilizing the normative basis, which recently has been reinforced by relevant Security Council resolutions and other documents. At the same time we believe it necessary to accelerate the adoption of the universal Convention on international terrorism that would exclude all the cases of using the so-called "double standards" in this issue.

The question of effective response to the growing threats to the stability of the Central Asian region cannot be seen separately from the issue of stabilizing the situation in Afghanistan. Unfortunately, we have to stress the fact that the process of Afghanistan's departure from post-conflict status is being unjustifiably delayed. Many promises of international donors have not been materialized.

Alarming are the problems in organizing the coordinated actions against drug trafficking. The volume and scale of the Afghan drugs are in high rise instead of decreasing. Today's reality is that Central Asia found itself on the route of narcotics flow from Afghanistan into industrialized world. In the context of these threats we remain confused why the idea of creating Regional Information and Coordination Center on fight against drug trafficking in Central Asia is being put off.

In the light of present situation in Central Asia the issue of demilitarizing the region acquires urgent significance. Another important issue in ensuring regional peace and addressing the outstanding social and economic problems is to accelerate the processes of establishing Central Asian Common Market that would guarantee the rational and effective use of huge potential and resources of Central Asia.

The states of Central Asia are united in their efforts to establish in the nearest future the Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in the region.

We call upon the permanent members of the Security Council to elaborate a consolidated position with the states of the region on this fundamental issue. Establishing Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia would be an important element in ensuring both regional and global peace and security, and also significantly contribute to non-proliferation of the WMD.

**Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere hope that the jubilee Summit, which is taking place in the breakthrough moment of our history, shall be fruitful and make a weighty contribution to the development of mankind.

Thank you!