

10 May 2011

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Joseph Deiss,  
President of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
at the Opening of the Informal Debate on the Independent Report of  
the Senior Advisory Group “Civilian Capacity in the Aftermath of  
Conflict”**

Madam Undersecretary-General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to be here today to open this informal debate on the independent report on “Civilian Capacity in the Aftermath of Conflict”.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, who is with us today, and to all members of the Senior Advisory Group for the excellent work in the elaboration of this independent report.

In his 2009 Report on Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict, the Secretary-General pointed out the necessity to analyze how the UN and the International Community “can help to broaden and deepen the pool of civilian experts to support the immediate capacity development needs of countries emerging from conflicts”. The result of the assessment was the appointment of the Senior Advisory Group that presents the report that our Assembly will consider today.

I would like to highlight in particular the very relevant structure of the report, which elaborates on the vision named OPEN. OPEN proposes that the United Nations enables national Ownership, works in global Partnership, delivers with Expertise and is Nimble in dealing with unforeseen circumstances in post-conflict contexts.

Following these four major key words, the report makes several recommendations. I very much hope that these recommendations, which are clear and concrete, will contribute to making the best use of capacities needed to secure a sustainable peace in post-conflict situations.

Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

The General Assembly is the only body of the United Nations in which all Member States are represented. Therefore, my intention today is to give to each delegation an opportunity to express its views on this independent report. The entire membership should be engaged in the discussion of the issues contained in the report. These issues are fundamental to contribute to long-lasting peace in the world.

Our discussion will feed in the follow-up of this report that will be undertaken in the fall by the Steering Group appointed by the Secretary-General under the leadership of Ms Susana Malcorra, Undersecretary-General for Field Support. Ms. Malcorra will have the opportunity to say some words on this process later today.

Our common goal should be to increase the efficiency and the effectiveness of the UN and of the international community in dealing with the important task of supporting the capacity development needs of societies emerging from conflicts. I am confident that you will have meaningful input to this end. I wish a fruitful discussion.

I thank you for your attention.