

19 November 2001

**Statement of H.E. Dr. Han Seung-soo,
President of the 56th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Debate on “Follow-up to the outcome of the
Millennium Summit”**

Before inviting representatives of the Member States to speak on this agenda item, I wish to draw your attention briefly to its background. As we all know, last year's historic Millennium Summit produced the Millennium Declaration, and as a follow-up, the General Assembly adopted resolution 55/162, which requested the Secretary-General, among others, to prepare a long-term “road map” towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. The Secretary-General's road map is before us, contained in the document I mentioned earlier.

In this regard, I would like to thank the Secretary-General and his Special Advisor Mr. Michael Doyle for preparing this comprehensive report in good time for our consideration. I believe that the road map provides us with not only a useful survey of ongoing activities of the United Nations but also a solid foundation and benchmark on which we can proceed with the implementation of the Millennium Declaration in the coming years.

As this session of the General Assembly is the first one after the Millennium Assembly of last year, the task before us requires our renewed sense of responsibility particularly in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. We need to maintain the political will and momentum of the Millennium Summit and take a comprehensive and balanced approach in carrying out and following up the Declaration.

The Millennium Declaration has set out the future direction for the United Nations in the new era and covers the whole spectrum of areas where our Organization is playing a role for the sake of peace and prosperity of mankind. Thus, its implementation can be effective only through participation by and cooperation among all actors of international relations including States, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international organizations, regional organizations, and also civil society. In this sense, I would like to remind the distinguished representatives of Member States of the great expectations for our debate today held by many observers all over the world as well as by ourselves within the United Nations. On that note, I now wish to invite the speakers on the list to take the floor.