

26 March 2002

**Statement of H.E. Dr. Han Seung-soo,
President of the 56th Session of the General Assembly,
on the Earthquakes in Afghanistan**

General Assembly President Han Seung-soo was deeply saddened to learn of the devastating earthquakes which struck northern Afghanistan Monday and Tuesday. While reports on the number of casualties are still sketchy, the President fears that this long-suffering nation will have yet another heavy burden to bear. It is doubly tragic that this natural disaster should hit a country that is finally experiencing a measure of peace and where children have just returned to school. The President hopes that the international community will act fast to bring relief assistance to the injured and to the many that have suddenly become homeless.