

14 May 2010

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,  
President of the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly,  
At the Closing of the informal meeting of the General Assembly on  
International Maritime Piracy**

Excellencies, Distinguished Panelists, Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to extend my thanks to all of you for your participation in this important meeting. My special thanks go to H.E. Mr. Abdurahman A. Ibrahim, the 1st Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia, H.E. Mr. Amos Kimunya, Minister of Trade of Kenya and H.E. Ms. Stefania Prestigiacomo, Minister of Environment, Land and Sea of Italy. I also thank the Secretary-General for his strong support. Our distinguished panelists have done a wonderful job in leading the discussions and providing critical insights into the subject matter, and I thank them for their important contributions.

I thank all Member states and representatives of Specialized Agencies, Inter-Governmental Organizations and NGOs for responding to my call to discuss the problem of piracy in a comprehensive manner in order to devise a collective and more coordinated response.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The proceedings today have reaffirmed that if not addressed urgently and effectively, the problem of piracy will spiral out of control and lead to further serious global consequences. Already, the political, social, economic and human rights implications of piracy, and its destabilizing effects on national, regional and international stability and trade are posing significant challenges to the international community.

With regard to Somalia, the discussions today have reaffirmed the urgent need for serious and concerted international efforts to bring peace and stability to the country and to ensure the full respect for Somalia's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, as well as the protection of its natural resources. The discussions highlighted that piracy off the coast of Somalia was but one symptom of the complex political, security and humanitarian situation in Somalia, hence the crucial need to help Somalia to effectively address those challenges and bring stability to the country.

Today's deliberations also bear eloquent testimony to the urgent need for stronger and better coordinated strategies, not only to fight piracy at sea, but more importantly to address its complex root causes as part of a comprehensive approach. The role of the United Nations is central in coordinating an effective and holistic response to piracy.

I will, in due course, make available a summary of our deliberations today.

Thank you all. The meeting is adjourned.