

24 October 2011

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser,
President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly,
on the loss of lives and destruction in Turkey's Earthquake**

Statement attributable to the spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, has expressed his deep sympathies and sadness to the Government and people of Turkey over the loss of hundreds of lives and extensive destruction in eastern Turkey as a result of the earthquake of Saturday, 22 October 2011.

President Al-Nasser commends the Turkish authorities and the various NGOs for their rapid response and diligent action, in assisting the survivors and victims of this disaster.

The President of the General Assembly reiterates the need for all Member States of the United Nations to do more in the area of "Improving Disaster Prevention and Response", an issue that is one of the key focus areas for the 66th Session of the General Assembly.