

8 November 2011

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser,
President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Presentation of the Security Council Report**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

I am very pleased to welcome to the General Assembly the President of the Security Council, His Excellency Ambassador José Filipe Moraes Cabral. Ambassador Moraes Cabral will shortly present to us the annual Security Council Report.

As you know, genuine efforts have been undertaken in recent years to strengthen the relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council. Under my Presidency, I want to continue - and to accelerate - this process.

This report is one of the main instruments for cooperation between the General Assembly and the Security Council. In close dialogue with his Excellency Ambassador Cabral, I have decided to devote a whole meeting of the General Assembly to the examination of this report, and to separate this item from the one we will examine this afternoon on Security Council Reform, because I deem it important to consider each item thoroughly. I know that many Member States are keen to be better informed of the work of the Council, and I thought it would be appropriate to focus our work this morning on the activities of the Security Council only.

During the reporting period, the Security Council faced tremendous challenges. Just to quote a few examples, the Council had to react to the post-election crisis in Cote d'Ivoire; the declaration of the state of South Sudan; and the developments in the Arab world, in particular in Libya, Yemen and Syria.

On certain issues of tremendous importance, including peacekeeping, post-conflict peace-building, and counterterrorism, it is crucial that the Security Council and the General Assembly work hand-in-hand to ensure the success of our organisation in its endeavours. Along with the UN system, the Security Council devotes a lot of time to cross-cutting issues like the protection of civilians in armed conflicts, children and armed conflict, and women, peace and security. For all those reasons, today's meeting is of crucial importance to ensure that we are all working in the same direction.

As President of the General Assembly, I attach great importance to the strengthening of cooperation between the General Assembly and the Security Council, to ensure better protection and promotion of the values of the United Nations.

Since taking office as President of the General Assembly, I have met every President of the Security Council. We have had intensive and fruitful discussions on how to better coordinate our work and to

improve the cooperation between us. Our teams have been in constant contact to ensure a smooth conduct of work in both organs, prevent conflicting agendas, and find ways to work in the same direction. I will continue this practice with every new President of the Security Council.

After hearing from the President of the Security Council, I encourage you to express your views on the report of the Security Council. I hope that our discussion today will allow us to make progress on strengthening our joint efforts.

Thank you.