



Bangladesh

Message from H.E. Rabab Fatima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations on the occasion of the commemoration of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations, 26 June 2020, New York

The Charter of the UN embodies the highest and finest ideals, values, and principles and remains the best blueprint for humankind's altruistic pursuit. As the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in his maiden address to the General Assembly said, "In a world that is marked by strife and human misery, the United Nations remains the focus of man's hope for the future." This encapsulates Bangladesh's abiding trust and confidence in the UN and its Charter. And this year's 75th anniversary commemoration event assumes special significance for us as it coincides with the Birth Centenary of our Founding Father.

Bangladesh owes a lot to the UN. We have been successful in reaping the benefit of the UN-led multilateralism and utilizing it for the inclusive development and welfare of our people with the pragmatic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. At the same time, we have in our modest way contributed to the UN in fulfilling its mandates. Our valiant peacekeepers are making significant contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security. Bangladesh has also been shouldering the responsibility of hosting over 1.1 million persecuted Rohingyas. We have resolved our international disputes through peaceful means utilizing UN platforms; we are upholding our human rights and disarmament obligations; and we are making contribution to UN's development discourses.

The United Nations symbolizes the unity and true strength of multilateralism which, we believe, is the panacea to the problems plaguing the globe. In its journey of 75 years, the UN had its share of setbacks. But the UN can be as effective as we, the member states, allow it to be.

Yet, in today's precarious global state of affairs, the UN has a lot more to offer; it has to take the lead to shape our future. The Covid-19 pandemic can be a rallying point to fortify UN to eradicate this and all future pandemics and build back better.

The UN Charter Day is a moment of reckoning. Let us re-commit to the UN so that humankind can emerge as a winner in its battle against all odds leaving no one behind.