

Постоянное Представительство
Российской Федерации
при
Организации Объединенных
Наций



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to the United Nations

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STATEMENT

BY HIS EXCELLENCY MR. VLADIMIR V.PUTIN
PRESIDENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
AT THE HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY MEETING
OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

15 September 2005

New York

Distinguished Co-Chairmen,
Heads of State and Government,
Secretary-General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

For six decades the destiny of this world has been inseparably bound to the work of the United Nations, the contemporary and one of the brightest symbols of the Victory over Nazism.

We remember that the commitment to the ideals of freedom and humanism united the nations of the planet in their joint fight against Nazism. And the creation of the United Nations clearly reflected the will of the civilized humanity to prevent new devastating wars and the revival of barbaric ideologies advocating violence, aggression and racial superiority.

For sixty years of its existence the United Nations have seen heated discussions and bitter disagreements. But this very Organization has become a unique forum for the systemic dialogue of nations on how to build a safe world. These very walls have seen the birth of many ideas of the détente as well as joint search for and establishment of the foundation for the fundamentally new, confrontation-free world order. As we look back, we can not but give justice to this accomplishment of the United Nations.

In the new historical context the experience, authority and supreme legitimacy of the United Nations enable the Organization to play its indispensable, truly unique role in global policy, economic and humanitarian cooperation.

Two years ago, standing on this rostrum, I spoke about Russia's fundamental approaches to enhancing efficiency of the United Nations. Our position on this issue remains consistent and intact.

Indeed, there is a need to adjust this Organization to the new historic realities. But this process should be constructive. It should take into account both the lessons learned,

and the positive experience gained by the United Nations. And this process must unite, not separate.

Only like this, through a broad agreement, can we further strengthen the authority and legitimacy of the United Nations as well as its capacity to respond more effectively to the challenges of the 21st century.

I am convinced that terrorism poses today the main threat to human rights and freedoms as well as to sustainable development of states and peoples.

That is why it is the United Nations and its Security Council that must be the main center for coordinating international cooperation in the fight against terrorism as the ideological successor of Nazism.

Besides, the United Nations and its Security Council must coordinate settlement of the long-lasting regional conflicts that terrorists and extremists of all sorts 'parasitize' on using the historic burden of religious, ethnic and social confrontation.

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It is not only through the concerted actions of the states that we should counteract the ideologists of the split of civilizations and terrorist aggression. It is of principal importance that the broad potential of civil society, mass media, cultural and humanitarian cooperation as well as of equal interdenominational dialogue be engaged.

Who else will take the role of coordinating and organizing this work but the United Nations? And in doing so, it can rely on support of all the Member States as well as on cooperation of influential international organizations and entities of regional integration.

Russia intends to increase its participation both in international crisis response action and in promotion of development and progress. Presiding in G8, Commonwealth of Independent States and Council of Europe next year we will continue the joint work in this important area.

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In conclusion, I would like to wish success to the Summit. As for the United Nations - to augment its influence and authority in the international community.

Let us not forget that the Organization belongs to all of us and to no-one in particular. And may we have wisdom to preserve it for future generations.

Thank you.