



REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

Statement
By

The Most Excellent Captains Regent

Of the Republic of San Marino

Mrs. Fausta Simona Morganti and Mr. Cesare Antonio Gasperoni

At the High Level Plenary Meeting
of the 60th Session of the General Assembly
Of the United Nations

Thursday, September 15th, 2005

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Mr President,
Mr Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Honourable Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am taking the floor today also on behalf of my Peer since, according to our legal system, the Republic of San Marino has two Heads of State, who jointly guarantee a democratic decision-making process.

After having identified and established, five years ago, in this very hall, the main goals to be achieved at the beginning of the XXI century, we now gather again to discuss and decide how to reach them. Undoubtedly, the success of this five year old process - or its failure - depends only on us.

The challenges of the Millennium Declaration, contained in the Secretary General report entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" are trans-national in nature and trans-institutional in terms of possible solutions.

We are gathered here because we are aware that these challenges cannot be addressed individually by each Country. Indeed, a close cooperation among Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations representing all sectors of civil society is essential.

In this spirit, the Republic of San Marino - characterized by a century-old tradition of freedom, democracy, peace and solidarity - has always upheld multilateralism, prompted by the conviction that in the modern world there are no frontiers able to stop both positive and negative events. We are all potential victims of plagues such as AIDS, environmental degradation, organised crime, terrorism and

underdevelopment. International cooperation is the only instrument in our possession to face and defeat today's destructive dynamics.

It is our opinion, today more than ever, that the world needs multilateralism. The United Nations Organization is its best expression. Globalization, in its most positive meaning, intended as sharing of technologies, resources and development, can guarantee a fair and balanced economic growth particularly for poor Countries.

Sadly, as of today, the development brought by globalization only touched a fragment of the world's population, while the remaining part has solely experienced the most negative impacts. The final result is a wider gap between the rich and the poor.

In the light of the above, we cannot but support the introduction of mechanisms that make the benefits of globalization available to all. Till this objective of equality is not achieved, we should fully support proposals inviting developed Countries to assist and aid developing ones.

We would like to praise, in this regard, last July G8 decision to increase financial aid and abolish the debt of 18 amongst the world's poorest states.

The Republic of San Marino is intensifying its cooperation and humanitarian assistance, within the possibilities of a microstate, to eradicate poverty and guarantee all peoples adequate development, in line with the Millennium Declaration.

The Millennium Development Goals Report clearly indicates that we are still far from achieving the targets established five years ago and that the fight against poverty is still an ethical, social, political and economic imperative.

It is deplorable that, at the beginning of the third Millennium, hundreds of millions of human beings are still suffering from hunger. Indeed, while extreme poverty has reduced in Asia, the situation has worsened in Africa, especially in the Sub-Saharan region. In that region in particular the fight against HIV/AIDS by the international community should be intensified.

It is unacceptable that every year about 11 million children, that is to say 30,000 per day, die before the age of five because of malnutrition or lack of basic health care and more than 115 million children still cannot benefit from a guaranteed access to primary education.

Against such a background, a greater responsible commitment by the international community is needed to guarantee all human beings and peoples the respect for fundamental rights and dignity, as an essential basis for peace building.

To this end, we believe that this Summit must set the guidelines for our respective States for an increasingly effective and meaningful action.

It is in this spirit that we express our best wishes to all.