





To counteract international terrorism, defend rights and freedoms of our own citizens we have to be able to foresee each its manifestation and oppose it not only with our unanimous condemnation but also with high professionalism of law enforcement agencies as well as active use of all international legal instruments created within the UN framework.

Mr. President

Making the role of the United Nations more relevant becomes even more evident against the background of modern development of both global and regional processes where concentration of collective efforts and adoption of decisions taking into account differing interests is required.

In this regard basic principles of international cooperation enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and tested over time criteria for maintaining balance of interests are of priority to us. Following such a course Turkmenistan always strives to fully utilize the potential of the Community of Nations and its institutions in proposing and advancing its foreign policy initiatives.

We see huge possibilities in close partnership with the UN and its specialized agencies in realizations of joint programs and projects. In this context we express gratitude to such United Nations specialized agencies as UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNODC, UNFPA for cooperation with us.

In cooperation with these agencies the Government of Turkmenistan implements a number of large projects which produce specific results in social sphere, in healthcare, education, environment, illegal drug trafficking and various other areas.

Turkmenistan will continue to maintain close ties with these agencies in search and implementation of new possibilities for cooperation.

The signing by the Government of Turkmenistan in February of this year of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for 2005-2009 (UNDAF) was a clear demonstration of strategic cooperation of Turkmenistan and the United Nations system. The significant mark of the signed document is the fact that this Program is being aimed at resolving global tasks within the framework of Millennium Development Goals, adopted by the United Nations, fully coincides with the national priorities and interests of Turkmenistan that are set forth in the National Development Strategy of Turkmenistan for the period until 2020.

One of the important components of the political course undertaken by Turkmenistan is the human dimension. In this area our country carries out joint work with international organizations.

During the years of independence we have carried out work to create real guarantees of enjoyment of personal, political, economic, social and other rights of citizens. For example, in the area of personal rights this is reflected in the laws and law enforcement practice of Turkmenistan regarding the abolition of death penalty, prohibition of carrying out searches in the homes of citizens, ban on taking individual decision in opening criminal case and other documents. Turkmenistan confirms implementation of these legal acts by its practical actions.

Every year by the decree of the President we carry out widespread pardoning of prisoners, the next one is to take place in about one month and as a result of it over 9 thousand people will be amnestied.

In today's Turkmenistan there are no restrictions on travel of its citizens abroad, there is guaranteed freedom of registration and activity of religious organizations and groups in accordance with universally recognized norms irrespective of the number of adherents or faith. A number of important legislative acts on these issues were adopted and in accordance with them at present several confessions are registered and functioning in Turkmenistan.

In the field of human dimension Turkmenistan has intensified its work with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. At the invitation of the Government of Turkmenistan in March of 2004 Turkmenistan was visited by the group of experts of the OHCHR which jointly

with the Turkmen side has worked out a specific areas of cooperation and rendered support in further development of human dimension issue including methodological and legal assistance in

