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STATEMENT BY

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MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
(INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)
ALSO HOLDING THE PORTFOLIO OF THE
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

TO THE
59th SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York
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**Statement by Hon. Tom R. Butime, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
(International Affairs) also Holding the Portfolio of the Minister of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda to the 59th Session of the
United Nations General Assembly, New York, September 28, 2004**

Mr. President,
Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of my delegation, the people of Uganda, and on my own behalf, I

financing, harbouring or supporting terrorist organisations. The international community must work against those who preach and promote hate propaganda based on religion, colour, tribe or race. Starting froions.

supports the Quartet-led roadmap for a comprehensive peaceful settlement in the Middle East. We support the establishment of a Palestinian state existing side-by-side and in peace with Israel within secure and recognised borders in accordance with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

We call upon our Israel and Palestinian brothers to return to the negotiating table and end the cycle of violence, which has caused needless loss of lives. After more than 50 years of violence and bloodshed, both the Israelis and Palestinians need a break. New creative approaches to a comprehensive peace should therefore be sought for the sake of their peoples. Every year every time, we pass resolutions which remain on mere paper. Resolutions are not solutions in themselves. It is high time we engaged constructively in the serious search for a solution, for the future of humanity and the Middle East.

Mr. President,

Turning to the Great Lakes Region, we note with satisfaction the positive developments with regard to the peace processes in the various conflict situations. In Burundi the transitional government has been consolidated with almost all the fighting groups subscribing to the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement. We call upon the groups still remaining outside the peace settlement to cease their military operations and join the peace process. We congratulate the African Peace Mission for its contribution to the Peace process. We welcome the deployment of United Nations Peacekeepers to Burundi. Election dates may change, but the elections must be held sooner or later. Elections, new Government and good representation propositions – all must be for peace for Burundi. It is, therefore, important that the international community extends the necessary assistance towards consolidation of peace, stability, rehabilitation and development of a stable Burundi.

Mr. President,

Uganda remains committed to supporting the peace process in the DRC. We urge all parties in the Government of National Unity in Kinshasa to remain committed to the Pretoria peace accords and to resist any temptation to resume hostilities. We also call upon the UN Security Council to

Goals (MDGs) in order to reduce poverty by 50% by 2015. It is, therefore, of grave concern that in many parts of Africa, poverty levels are rising as per capita incomes continue to decline, infant and maternal mortality rates are on the increase, while official development assistance commitments remain unfulfilled.

In order to make positive progress on meeting the MDGs and ensuring equitable

With regard to the reform of the UN Security Council, the restructuring should