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Statement

by

His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifs

The Crown Prince and Commander-in-Chief
of the Bahrain Defence Force

to

The High Level Plenary Meeting
of the General Assembly

16 September 2005

New York

866 Second Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10017

Mr. President,

It is our great honour and pleasure to participate in this high level meeting at the United Nations, which is celebrating its sixtieth anniversary at the start of the Twenty-First Century with the commencement of the Millennium Initiative, in which we hope to achieve new horizons of international cooperation within a solid United Nations system through which collective security is reinforced and choices of all nation states are respected.

May I take this historic opportunity to reaffirm the Kingdom of Bahrain's adherence to the goals and principles of the United Nations, as enshrined in the Charter, and to the recommendations that will be adopted during this meeting, which reemphasize the importance of the historic and legal responsibilities of the United Nations to build peace, achieve collective security and speed up the development process, as well as reinforcing the role of the United Nations while promoting human rights and the rule of law.

We concur with the content of the report from the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the direct link between development, security and human rights. We believe that this Organisation can fulfil these demands and prepare the ground for achieving the valuable recommendations of the Secretary-General's report, which are major goals of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

In spite of the achievements of the United Nations over the past six decades, it has also faced many obstacles and challenges, particularly at the current historic juncture and unprecedented international circumstances and challenges, namely poverty, hunger, disease, the serious threat posed to all humanity by weapons of

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mass destruction, and the spread of phenomena such as civil wars and terrorism, which has become one of the most dangerous challenges today facing the international community, whose eradication which requires concerted international efforts and cooperation.

Tо avoid conflicts and disagreements within countries, we believe in raising religious beliefs above politics, and keeping them beyond day-to-day disagreements based on changing interests, without misusing religious beliefs or racial diversity for political ends. While politics is in constant motion, beliefs and race are inherited and unchanging.

Mr. President,

Our Organisation, today more than ever before, is in need of reform, restructuring of its main bodies to enhance its effectiveness and make it more democratic and more representative of the majority of its members. The Security Council does not reflect present international realities, and therefore should be expanded, and its working methods revised to enhance its transparency.

Mr. President,

Development requires the establishment of a just multilateral trading system,

Development Goals, and to renew our commitment to achieving the said Goals by the year 2015.

Today, we are called upon to increase our efforts to achieve these basic human goals through the participation of both civil society and the private sector in implementing the international community's development goals, and the peoples' aspirations for development, knowledge and reconstruction around the world. Such goals inspire peoples' hopes and ambitions for freedom and a dignified life within an equitable partnership that seeks a prosperous future for all through cooperation, mutual tolerance, and development.

The Kingdom of Bahrain will remain committed to its principles, continue on the path of reform and openness in order to achieve sustainable development goals, to enhance the values of tolerance and dialogue among all, without violence or bias, and will participate effectively in the establishment of security, stability and peace around the world.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Thank you.

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