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Mr. President, dear Colleagues,

Five years ago we proclaimed our collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. We have established a comprehensive normative framework with core Rights treaties, historic declarations and decades Human of iurisprudence from treaty bodies and international tribunals. Nevertheless, there is still a dangerous lack of enforcement and implementation on a global level. We must take concrete steps to reduce selective application, arbitrary enforcement and breach without consequence. Those steps will give new life to the commitments made in the Millennium Declaration. In the document we have just adopted, these commitments have been considerably reinforced.

Mr. President, dear Colleagues,

Significant events since the Millennium Declaration have had farreaching consequences and have changed dramatically the way we perceive peace and security. The terrorist attacks in New York and elsewhere have brought to light new global threats and challenges.

In these constantly evolving times, the Declaration we are adopting today is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to certain basic principles, such as:

- The obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the United Nations Charter.
- The peaceful resolution of disputes, in accordance with the UN Charter and international law.
- The authority of the Security Council to take action to maintain and restore international peace and security, and
- The full implementation of Security Council resolutions.

Only through such commitment can we hope to successfully face terrorism, global pandemics, extreme poverty, natural disasters, weapons of mass destruction, transnational organized crime, massive human rights violations and other scourges of our world.

Mr. President, dear Colleagues,

This year we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of our organization, which, built for a different era, has to adapt, in order to be effective in the new international environment. The United Nations, the only truly global

institution of humanity, endowed with a unique legitimacy, must respond to the new realities and challenges.

The Declaration we are adopting today constitutes, in our view, a good beginning in the long path of necessary reforms. It is a strong political call encompassing most of the suggested ideas in development, peace-building, human rights, peace-keeping, and UN institutions.

Thank you Mr. President.