SIXTIETH SESSION

OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ADDRESS BY H.E. MR. BHARRAT JAGDEO

PRESDIENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

AT THE

HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY MEETING

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trade and economic cooperation as well as the transfer of science and technology for development purposes.

These economic and social challenges are made, as the Secretary General's Report reminds us, all the greater by the political insecurity that is the defining reality of today's world. The threats to the security of states - more particularly the small and vulnerable - have been greatly magnified by the spread of terrorism, transboundary crime, disease, arms and drug-trafficking. Most of our countries are ill-equipped because of scarce resources to defend themselves from these encroachments.

Mr. President, contemporary circumstances have brought us to a watershed. The multiplication of threats to our common existence, whatever their genesis, represents as foreboding a scenario as any the scourge of war could conjure up. We must act to contain these dangers by strengthening the United Nations to perform its functions.

For more than a decade, we have been engaged in the examination of ways and means to reform the United Nations. On the basis of the recommendations that have emerged, we must take action at this General Assembly to make the organization more democratic in its decision-making and more effective in the discharge of the many mandates with which it has been entrusted.

Of particular urgency is the need to reform the Security Council, the organ responsible for the maintenance of global peace and security, to allow it