

REPUBLIC OF POLAND

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

9 EAST 66th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

TEL. (212) 744-2506

Check against delivery

S T A T E M E N T

by

His Excellency

Mr. Aleksander KWAŚNIEWSKI

President of the Republic of Poland

at the High-level Plenary Meeting
of the sixtieth session of the
General Assembly of the
United Nations

New York, September 1th, 2005

Mr. President,

Mr. Secretary-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The United Nations today is facing an unprecedented challenge to provide the humanity with a new hope to build the 21st century's civilization on a solid foundation of universal values: freedom, security, democracy and solidarity.

Polish dedication to those values draws its strength from our past experiences. This year we commemorate in Poland the 25 anniversary of the Solidarity movement which inspired profound changes in Central and Eastern Europe. But above all, it mobilized nations and societies around fundamental values and noble principles. In this spirit, the anniversary celebrations attended by numerous heads of state and government were concluded by the appeal to establish the 31st of August as the World Day of Freedom and Solidarity. Today, I wish to repeat that appeal and call for a world united in freedom and solidarity.

Excellencies,

Solidarity should be perceived as one of the key principles of the international relations. It should

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We must also show greater determination in our response to problems, such as violence, poverty, social exclusion, terrorism, and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and others. We must stand up to those who ignore the unity of our world and see it as a battlefield of fighting religions, nations, and races. Therefore, the United Nations must pursue a far-reaching and comprehensive vision of change and play a more decisive and effective role in shaping a broad development policy which would contribute to improving life in all parts of the world.

As our contribution to that change, the Republic of Poland reiterated on numerous occasions the need to elaborate a New Political Act of the United Nations for the 21st century. In fact, the Polish vision of