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Statement of

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Minister of Foreign Affairs

Before

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The High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th Session of the General Assembly

New York, 16 September 2005

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In the Name of Allah, The Merciful, The Beneficent

Mr. President

At the outset, allow me to express my sincere congratulations for electing
you to preside over this historical meeting. I am fully confident that your wisdom as well as your renowned political and diplomatic expertise will guide us to achieve the desired results. I would like to express my deep appreciation to H.E. Mr. Jean Ping, for the distinguished leadership he provided during the fifty ninth session of the General Assembly which prepared for this meeting. It is also my pleasure to commend his Excellency, Mr. Koff Annan, the UN Secretary General, for his persistent efforts in leading the International Organization on the path of reform, modernization and advancement towards its noble goals and objectives.

I would also like to commend the concerted and constructive efforts exerted
by the International community and crowned by this historical summit. It is a courageous initiative which reflects the conscious and attentive response of the International Community to the challenges it faces, and at the same time, expresses its sincere desire for collective actions to firmly and decisively confront these challenges to build a new international order guided by the values of justice, equality, respect for human dignity, and governed by the principles of the International Law.

Mr. President

This is a historic and unique opportunity for us to shoulder the responsibility of confronting present threats, through consolidating the central role of the United Nations, by enabling it to assume its role in effectively maintaining international peace and security. The International Organization has been and should remain the platform that represents the collective responsibility, the concept of multilateralism, as well as the efforts and will to create a stable and secure world.

In this context, this summit represents a real test for the international community's will to prove its ability to realize the aspirations of all member states of the Organization.

Mr. President

At the forefront of the priorities of this summit is the issue of sustainable development and the liberation of billions of people from poverty, diseases and the hunger. In this context, we are deeply concerned about the modest achievements that have been made regarding the implementation of the millennium development goals, which have raised the aspirations of millions of people for a world in which they live in dignity.

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We emphasize our call to take the necessary steps aiming at eliminating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons.

Mr. President

Undoubtedly, you are following the positive developments on the Sudanese arena which have led to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement; which continues to be implemented in a serious and concerted manner. Allow me to pay tribute to the late First Vice President John Garang, who has been a principal partner in reaching this historical peace agreement.

In this regard, the formation of the government of national unity has almost been completed with the broad participation of most of the political parties. The constitution of the transitional period has also been adopted.

Concerted efforts are exerted in collaboration with the international community to consolidate peace, development and stability.

In light of the efforts exerted to achieve comprehensive and a sustainable