



Statement

by

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Check against Delivery

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Madam Chair

Allow me first to congratulate you on your election to steer the Second Committee's work during the General Assembly's 65th Session, and to extend my congratulations to the bureau members. Lebanon is confident that under your able chairmanship, the second committee will make positive achievements. My thanks also go to the Secretariat for organising the Committee's work programme and for preparing the pertinent documentation. I also express my delegation's thanks to your predecessor for an excellent work.

Lebanon associates itself with the statement delivered by Yemen on behalf of G77 and China.

Madam Chair

Over the next couple of months this committee will address a wide range of issues. As such, Lebanon would like to emphasise on the following:

First, the impact of the financial and economic crisis has been most severe on the developing countries. The Committee's work must therefore take into account adopting meaningful measures to alleviate the magnitude, severity and adverse socio-economic implications of this crisis on these countries.

Second, the calls for a comprehensive, equitable and inclusive international financial system must be addressed, as the crisis has revealed the pressing need to reform the said system. Lebanon believes that it is high time to reform the Bretton Woods system, in particular its governing structure, so as to increase the participation of the developing countries in the norm-setting and decision making process.

Third, our work in the Committee should also contribute towards establishing an effective early warning system to avoid the recurrence of another global financial crisis. Lebanon notes the work undertaken by the Secretary-General's office on a Global Impact and Vulnerability Alert System (GIVAS).

Fourth, agriculture development and food security, international trade and development, poverty eradication, implementation of Mauritius Strategy, and promoting "Decade for Education", oil slick on Lebanese shores and the Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, over their natural resources are important inter-linked issues that merit attention and, thus, should be addressed accordingly.

Madam Chair

The global nature of our challenges requires us to address them in a global scope. These challenges put us in the midst of the ebb and flow of crises that reversed many important development gains in developing countries and that threatened to alter our way of life.

The UN- MDGs Summit that convened a fortnight ago, asserted the urgent need to scale up global partnership for development, and to mobilise the promised ODA financial resources, so as to help the developing countries bridge, by 2015 target date, the remaining MDG gaps.

Thus, Lebanon views that the cornerstone to our success is the presence of political will by the developed countries to fulfil their pledges, lest these pledges remain mere dreams the world's poor aspire for with hope, but without being able to benefit from their virtues and, in turn, these pledges become like a mirage that gets further away from the poor countries whenever they think they are close to it.

Climate Change, the most serious challenge of our modern time, continues to pose destructive threat, not only to our socio-economic development but, also, to our very existence. Thus, Lebanon believes that it is high time for the international community, in general, and the developed countries, in particular, to rise to their historic responsibility and to address this challenge in the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference that will be held in Cancún, from 29 November to 10 December 2010. The developed countries are asked to commit to the principles of “equity and common but differentiated responsibilities”.

Bio-diversity protection has never been as great as it is today, given the alarming threat to species and ecosystem's extinction which is by harmful human activities. Therefore, Lebanon hopes that the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which will be held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, will ascertain the international community's political will and commitment to the conservation of bio-diversity, to the sustainable use of its components, to the fair and equitable sharing of benefits of its resources, and to the genuine transfer of technology to developing countries.

Madam Chair,

Finally, our work must be in harmony with the work undertaken in other fora that address these challenges. Whilst, Lebanon places importance on comprehensiveness, it recognises the need for effective and timely decision making, as well as implementable results. Thus, we must work with this in mind to ensure that we remain relevant.

Within this spirit, Lebanon is resolved to achieve the MDGs and to address the adverse effects of climate change, bio-diversity loss based on the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities”, its respective capabilities, and its national circumstances.

Thank you Madam Chair,