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TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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STATEMENT

BY

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Ambassador and Permanent Observer

of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

to the United Nations

TO THE

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL

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Mr. President,

Thank you for giving me the floor to offer a statement on behalf of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

After its first participation in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in 1991, the Order has maintained its presence in many different parts of the globe. Several names may be cited as milestones of the Order's cooperation with the United Nations in accordance with the UN Charter and in the defense of human rights and freedom. This presence is the proof that we recognize peacekeeping operations to be a basic tool in order to sustain peace. All hands are required in this effort, including states, regional and subregional organizations, which must cooperate with the UN to increase coordination, to ensure management, to cooperate in reconstruction, and to contribute with trained troops and financial aid.

Peacekeeping has become increasingly multi-dimensional and it is useless to stress the need to improve integrated mission planning and to assure the protection of humanitarian personnel. It is in this sense that the international community must establish the basis for fruitful collaboration through clear and implementable mandates. Peacekeeping operations must count on adequate financial and political support. As we have heard in this forum, cooperation has proven its efficacy in such cases as Guinea-Buissau and Burundi, where the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council worked together.

To build a stable and lasting peace, we need to establish the rule of law--an objective that frequently requires the reform of judicial and penal systems--and to do so effectively through a close cooperation between the international community and local civil society.

Mr. President,

The experience of this Sovereign Order and its participation in the above mentioned operations justifies our presence and includes our responsibility in peacekeeping operations. Allow me to conclude by saying that the Sovereign Order of Malta pledges, to the full measure of its possibilities, to continue to offer its service to the United Nations in present and in future peacekeeping operations.

Thank you very much Mr. President.