

## **STATEMENT**

**By Mr. Konstantin K. Dolgov, Deputy Permanent Representative  
of the Russian Federation at the General Assembly plenary meeting  
on “Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization”  
(Item 10 on the agenda)**

**7 October 2004**

Mr. Chairman,

The Secretary-General has rightly noted in the Report on the work of the Organization that the UN has experienced an extremely complex year. We all have been witnesses of and participants in heated debates on the role the Organization should play in the present world.

As is known, the truth is born in disputes. The truth is that the UN is the most universal and non-alternative instrument in regulating international relations at the time of globalization. The work of the 59-th session of the General Assembly convincingly proves that the true hopes to find solutions of topical problems related to security and inter-state cooperation are pinned on the use of the UN potential and regulatory functions.

An unprecedented wave of terrorist acts which has swept throughout the world has vividly shown that the UN is irreplaceable as a center for coordination of efforts in combating terrorism. We hope that the Security Council will pass a new resolution, to be sponsored by Russia and backed by a number of other Security Council members, which will open new prospects for enhancing efficiency of the antiterrorist coalition. As a follow-up to the Security Council relevant decisions this resolution is called up to outline a clear strategy of collective action of the international community to combat terrorism.

The UN SC Counterterrorist Committee remains to be the main coordinating body in this key area. As a Chairman of the Committee, Russia will continue to actively contribute to strengthening its capacities, and promoting its cooperation with international and regional organizations including the Commonwealth of Independent States, Collective Security Organization and Shanghais Cooperation Organization.

Terrorism can be defeated only through common efforts and on a solid basis of the UN Charter and norms of international law. Arbitrariness gives rise to retaliatory violence. That is why we fully agree with the Secretary-General that every effort should be taken to strengthen the rule of law in world affairs.

Reliable guarantees need to be ensured to prevent terrorists from laying their hands on weapons of mass destruction. This is one of the most serious challenges to the security of all members of the international community. SC Resolution 1540 lays basic principles and mechanisms for coordinated counteraction to WMD “black markets” and higher efficiency of non-proliferation regimes. It is in our common interests to achieve real progress in this direction. A sharp growth in the number of peace-keeping operations in particular on the African continent conducted by the UN convincingly prove that its efforts are very much sought for. The previous year has seen numerous successes in settling conflicts, namely in Sierra-Leone, Liberia, Haiti and in a number of other hotbeds of crisis. We hope that the time of comprehensive settlement in Sudan and Afghanistan, Burundi and Côte d’Ivoire is not far off. At the same time many regional fires are still flaring. Iraq and the Middle East make their list far from being exhaustive.

This aim can be achieved only through united efforts under the aegis of the United Nations by deepening its interaction with regional partners under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter.

On our initiative two previous sessions of the General Assembly adopted by consensus resolutions on outlining, with the UN playing a central role, a global

strategy to counter current challenges and threats. The implementation of this initiative will make it possible to realize the idea of collective security enshrined in the UN Charter. We hope that united efforts in this area will be continued at the current session of the General Assembly.

What is important is that the work of the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change set up by the Secretary-General has been organized exactly in this vein. Hopefully, its recommendations will enable the UN and other multilateral institutions to achieve a considerable rise in their effectiveness. Moreover, the “Wise Men Group” is called to make its input in reforming the United Nations and its Security Council. The completion of this process should be marked by the broadest possible consensus among Member States with the common goal to strengthen the United Nations.

In a more interrelated world the UN should focus more on such global challenges, namely eradicating poverty and illiteracy, including as a breeding ground for terrorism and extremism, providing for a balanced development, fighting the spread of grave contagious diseases, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in particular, and ensuring environmental security.

Conscious of Russia’s responsibility for the destiny of our globe, the Russian Government has taken a decision that the Kyoto Protocol is to be ratified. We expect the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation to come up with a positive decision on the matter.

The UN activity in the social and economic area should concentrate on achieving the Millennium Development Goals and implementing agreements reached at conferences and summits held under the UN aegis. It is important that in working out and implementing a concerted strategy in international trade, finances and investments the Organization is entrusted with efficient and mobilizing functions.

The preparations for the next year's United Nations 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the summit dedicated to the five-year review of the Millennium Declaration, which are now in full swing, enable us to make a major step forward in achieving the noble causes and ideals of this universal Organization. Russia is ready for a further close cooperation with all partners in fulfilling this immense and, at the same time, noble task.

Thank you for your attention.