

Постоянное
представительство
Российской Федерации
при Организации
Объединённых Наций



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ADDRESS

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THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
AT THE SIXTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE
UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(New-York, September 21, 2006)

Traditionally, the General Assembly session offers an opportunity to make a review of the current situation in the world, identify major international issues, and the role the United Nations could play in resolving them. I believe we have every reason to conclude that there is prevailing trend of growing awareness of the need to strengthen collective foundations in the international politics and of the fact that there is no alternative to tackling the existing problems through multilateral diplomacy.

This trend is an unbiased one, for it reflects realities of an emerging multipolar architecture of international relations.

This trend is tenable because an answer to global challenges and treats can only be found collectively.

Finally, this trend is a manifestation of historical continuity, because we are revisiting the same objective as the founding fathers of the United Nations were keen to pursue by enshrining the principles of developing a system of collective security in this Organization's Charter. It is

precisely this approach based on a solid foundation of the international law that can ensure a sustainable world development within the context of globalization. And it requires a strengthened central role for this Universal Organization in every area of international life.

We are, of course, to continue adapting the United Nations mechanisms and methods to the new environment. A lot has been done as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit decisions. The Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council have been established. The reform process has also encompassed management. It is important that all our further work is based upon the fundamental principle of the universality of the United Nations. The patterns that, contrary to the UN Charter, exclude individual states or groups of states from meaningful participation in the Organization's activities or introduce a single system of values into the work of its Secretariat are unsustainable. Let us not forget that the United Nations belongs to us all. The administrative reform should not also lead to the bureaucracy taking over its management, thus sacrificing the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations.

A trend towards collective action has also strengthened beyond the UN structures. The Russian G8 presidency saw enhanced practice of interaction between this Forum and other leading countries of the world and international organizations. In the last twelve months our Dialogue Partners have actively contributed to the St.Petersburg Summit documents on every main agenda item, including global energy security, developing education and controlling infectious diseases. A new and genuinely collaborative type of interaction between the G8 and Africa is now emerging in this era of globalization, as the needs of this Continent find their reflection in the mainstream of the world development rather than being viewed as issues divorced from overall trends. Decisions reached in St.Petersburg are not a G8 monopoly. All states are invited to participate in their implementation.

Regional organizations and their cooperation and coordination with the United Nations in maintaining world peace and security have strengthened. These issues were discussed at the special Ministerial Meeting of the Security Council yesterday. Once again, we are dealing here with an important dimension of the collective action by the international community.

The Commonwealth of Independent States has made a significant contribution to such interaction. To address common problems, specific actions have been taken within the Commonwealth area, primarily within the Eurasian Economic Community and the Collective Security Treaty Organization.

More substantive and purposeful efforts were made within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization that has launched and realized an initiative for establishing a Partnership Network for Multilateral Associations in the Asia-Pacific Region. The development patterns in this region would largely determine the future outlook of our planet. Multilateral institutions in Latin