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**The address of the representative of His Highness the Amir, His  
Highness the Prime Minister before the 66th session of the General  
Assembly at the United Nations  
September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011**

**In the Holy name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful, and peace and blessings be upon His messenger Mohammad, his kin and his companions.**

**Mr. President,  
Your Majesties, Your Highnesses,  
Your Excellences,  
Permanent Representatives and Ambassadors,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**AssalamuAlikumWaRahmatullahiWaBarakatuh**

**It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the government and the people of the State of Kuwait, to convey to you personally, our sincere felicitations on your unanimous re-election as president of the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly, in acknowledgement and appreciation of the prominent position the State of Qatar holds, and the close ties and distinguished relations with my country Kuwait. I am confident that you will guide the work of this session to achieve the required success. We would also like to commend the efforts of your predecessor Mr. Joseph Deiss(of Switzerland) for his outstanding presidency and successful management of the previous session. We congratulate His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon for his re-election as the Secretary General of the United Nations, and we wish him every success.**

**We were pleased by the accession of the State of South Sudan to the United Nations, the State that Kuwait recognized from day one of its independence, and we are confident that its government and people, who are proud of their links with us, will achieve security, stability and economic development for their country.**

**Mr. President,**

**The significance of our organization has without a doubt increased over time, as the international arena has witnessed over the past six decades numerous events and developments that had direct impact on international peace and security. The United Nations was able to act as the safe haven for member countries to find common and collective solutions, since it is the most multilaterally legal, credible and independent of international mechanisms to**



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confront countless problems and crises, as there is a conviction that a State in spite of its capabilities, is unable unilaterally, to confront the threats of terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the aspect of climate change, epidemics, organized crime and other challenges, as geographic and national frontiers are no longer a barrier against them spilling over, spreading and impacting. In fact, the role of the United Nations in the latter years has increased particularly in confronting human disasters; natural or man-made, perhaps the latest example is the famine that struck the African Horn due to drought and violence, whereby the United Nations mobilized humanitarian aide to distribute amongst the destitute which contributed to alleviating their suffering and saving the lives of millions.

The increased importance of the United Nations in our world today requires improving and enhancing its performance, which calls for procedures and measures to reform its major bodies such as the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and to develop its mechanisms to enable it to perform its tasks and responsibilities efficiently and effectively, thus, it falls on the shoulders of all member countries to support the organization and commit to implementing its resolutions and provide the necessary financial resources, unconditionally, and at the specified time. The final outcome is that the strength of the United Nations reflects in the extent of support members demonstrate for its noble objectives and the fulfillment of its needs.

Mr. President,

The current events and developments in the Middle East are of grave concern and warn of further deterioration in the security and stability of the region. The use of force and violence which claimed the lives of thousands of innocent victims must stop, and the legitimate demands of populations must be responded to along with the implementation of serious and speedy political, economic and social reforms, in this respect, the State of Kuwait supports all efforts that call for dialogue and understanding and renounce violence.

The State of Kuwait is keen to enhance and develop its relations with its neighbours on firm and solid ground built on mutual respect and joint interests, raising the standard of relations that nations of the region aspire to. In this context, the State of Kuwait appeals to the Islamic Republic of Iran to take serious and genuine measures to build trust by complying with United Nations resolutions and cooperating with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to dispel the concerns and skepticism harboured towards its nuclear programme and positively cooperate to resolve the conflict over the occupied United Arab Emirates Islands in accordance with the principles and regulations of international law.

Mr. President,



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**The State of Kuwait this year celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its independence and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its liberation from the Iraqi occupation of Saddam. This liberation was truly one of the most prominent successes of the United Nations in its pursuit to deter the aggression and eliminate its impact on the basis of the UN charter and resolutions. In November, Kuwait will also be celebrating 50 years since the introduction of its constitution which codified democracy in belief of the principles and objectives of international law and based its relations on the principles of the respect of sovereignty, independence and non-interference in the internal affairs of others and resolve all disputes by peaceful means.**

**The State of Kuwait is keen to overcome its painful memories through establishing close relations predominated by cooperation, mutual respect and good neighbourly relations with the Republic of Iraq, whom we hope it will establish stability and development, and further progress in its efforts to impose security and rebuild its economy that was destroyed by the former regime through its aggressive and expansionist policies. We hereby renew our commitment to offer all forms of support to help Iraq implement its remaining international obligations stipulated in pertinent Security Council resolutions, so that Iraq may regain its regional and international role.**

**Mr. President,**

**More than six decades have elapsed and the United Nation stands helpless in finding a solution to the Palestinian issue and ending the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, yet the Palestinian people's suffering has exacerbated over the years, its economic and social situation worsened, the settlements are expanding, lands are confiscated, water is stolen, the people are living under siege, and are subject to arrests. What is most worrying is that the international community fails to take action in response to these Israeli practices and policies in spite of its blatant violation of the basic fundamentals of international legitimacy, undermining the chances for achieving peace. Perhaps Israel's inhumane practices in imposing a siege against our brothers in Gaza is totally unjustified, and the deliberate destruction of the infrastructure despite continued international condemnation are clear examples of Israel's disregard of its responsibilities and international public opinion.**

**The international community is required to continue its efforts in exerting pressure on Israel, to empower the Palestinian people to attain their right for self-determination and establish an independent state on their territory with east Jerusalem as its capital, and put an end to the Israeli occupation of all occupied Arab territories since June 1967, including the Syrian Golan, and halt its continued violations of the sovereignty of Lebanon withdrawing from all its occupied territories. Therefore, we renew our commitment and full support of the**



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**Palestinian Authority's demands and efforts to obtain membership of the United Nations as an independent sovereign with and full membership.**

**Mr. President,**

**The State of Kuwait welcomes international reports issued by the United Nations and its agencies on the accomplishment of Millennium Development Goals endorsed by the global summit for the year 2005, we should all be proud of the accomplishments in reducing the number of those affected by the HIVvirus (AIDS) and providing medication for a large number of those infected with the disease and other infectious diseases like malaria and tuberculosis.**

**However, in spite of these achievements, there is still so much to do, as the accomplishments are inadequate and disproportionate between one country and the other, and there are many indications that confirm some countries are unable to attain the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015 for various reasons the most obvious being; the economic and financial global crisis with its far reaching effects on most countries large and small, wealthy and poor, although developing countries and the least developed countries suffered the most because of their weak and fragile economies as their economic growth slowed down , exports dropped and the rate of unemployment grew, while the prices of food stuff and basic commodities rocketed exacerbating the impact of the crisis economically and socially. No sooner had the world began to recover from this crisis than the prospect of another crisis loomed threatening global economic growth once again, represented this time in the sovereign debts of the United States and a number of European countries.**

**The international community is called upon to proceed in restructuring international financial institutions, guarantee their conformity with the international reality and improve their abilities to perform their tasks effectively and efficiently, rendering them more representative and just towards countries in need of their support.**

**The world today is in dire need of a just and fair global commercial system to bridge the enormous gap between countries, achieve mutual benefits and assist in integrating the economy of poor countries with the global economic system. Developed countries must fulfill their commitments and increase their official development assistance to the 0.7 % set internationally.**

**In this context, the State of Kuwait spared no effort in providing urgent humanitarian assistance to countries struck by natural disasters, and responding to appeals from the United Nations and its agencies to alleviate the suffering of the peoples of these countries. Through its conviction of the importance of the role undertaken by the United Nations in the humanitarian field, the State of Kuwait has increased its voluntary contributions to a number of specialized**



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international organizations and agencies such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Although Kuwait is a developing country, yet since its independence in 1961, it drew its self a fixed policy and approach to support developing and least developed countries by extending a helping hand and offering humanitarian and developmental assistance. More than 100 countries from different parts of the world have benefited from over 15 billion dollars in assistance.

The Amir of the State of Kuwait has launched a number of initiatives, these are: the Respectable Life Initiative, Supporting and Promoting Small and Medium Projects Initiative and Eastern Sudan Development Initiative to alleviate the suffering of many countries effected by the increase in food stuff prices and energy, and those whose economies were effected by the global financial crisis which lead to a rise in unemployment and an increase in poverty. A number of countries have actually benefited from these initiatives.

Mr. President,

The United Nations was able through the numerous conferences it organized, the international agreements and conventions it ratified and the resolutions and statements it endorsed, to unify our vision, steer our endeavours , mobilize our capabilities and potentials to bolster joint action and combat corruption, enhance the rule of law and wise governance, respect human rights, boost the role of women and empower them in society, and we look forward to a more effective international role in the frame work of the Alliance of Civilizations Initiative (UNAOC) to intensify dialogue between different civilizations, religions and cultures, so as to spread the values of tolerance, moderation, mutual respect and renounce violence and extremism which undermine and reduce our opportunities for joint cooperation to spread the culture of peace, and achieve the principles and noble objectives stipulated in the charter of our organization.

Thank you Mr. President