



URUGUAY



Mr President,
No one denies today that globalization is here to stay.

Not only has it changed the world of communications so that everything now happens at the same time throughout the world, but it has also made frontiers fixed by history now meaningless. The current generation of young people has more contact with others living thousands of kilometers away than with their neighbors or relatives. A global culture is emerging among us.

While this is happening the world is still experiencing its nationalisms, cultures, age-old habits, interests and projects that are inherent to nations and which are often alien to the new realities.

The question that we Governments ask, and in particular those that represent small nations, is whether this inexorable change can be handled by the organizations that we have created or whether these organizations still have a long way to go in adapting to the new reality.

Looking at the impressive success achieved since San Francisco in 1944 to today, two things emerge clearly. Firstly, the institutions that we have created represent the

they represent today can assume greater obligations in the inescapable tasks that the situation of mankind now imposes on us.

It is time for them to share greater responsibility, together with those five nations that assumed such responsibility sixty years ago.

Uruguay has also been participating for many years in the various United Nations peacekeeping operations. Uruguay is One of the largest troop contributors in the world,

In our view, each State, each nation and community and, certainly, each human being must contribute to this common endeavor and in doing so help the United Nations to fulfill its role as universal guarantor.

Naturally, the international system with its global and regional institutions must be in the forefront in organizing the struggle against this scourge, as it has been doing and will continue to do in various parts of the world.

The fight against this and other evils—hunger, poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, exclusion, in short inhumanity—needs a United Nations that is more united and capable of more rapid and effective responses. This is why it must be more representative, balanced and reliable, so that it could continue to be a reference point for the weak and a restraining influence on the strong.

Our country has recently adopted legislation aimed at strengthening the system of prevention and control of money laundering and financing of terrorism.

With regard specifically to the fight against terrorism, the law:

- a) Punishes terrorist activities and their financing, basing its provisions on the principles contained in the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism;
- b) Establishes a procedure for freezing the assets of terrorist organizations and persons connected with them, in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned instruments. It is also in compliance with the mandate contained in resolution 1373 (2001) of the United Nations Security Council.

The law also provides for improvements in the international cooperation mechanisms for combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

Lastly, Uruguay has ratified eleven of the twelve treaties against terrorism of universal scope, apart from two regional ones.

Mr. President,

At the Millennium Summit and in the Doha Declaration and Monterrey Consensus, we agreed on principles, goals and priorities and we made commitments which we have just reaffirmed a few days ago at our Summit of World Leaders on the Action against Hunger and Poverty.

We wish to affirm here once more that if one of the current goals of the multilateral system is to discipline and effectively operate in a globalized world, then the elaboration of more just and equitable rules of international trade becomes a key chapter in the march towards social and political stability, which is today in serious jeopardy.

This is particularly important since it is well known that States that preach and demand freedom of trade and opening of markets impose and institute obstacles to trade,

countries such as ours and many others that can only offer to the world the fruit grown from their land and the fruit of the labor of their people.

Uruguay attaches great importance to the economic and financial questions. The most tangible demonstration of this is the fact that Uruguay has dealt with the worst crisis in its history with frankly positive results, which has permitted us to complete our constitutional mandate with growth in the national product in the order of 9%, thanks to the joint efforts of our people and Government, of the Governments of friendly countries and of the international financial system.

Mr President,

We wish to reiterate our firm support for the Doha Round and to express our strong hopes that its deliberations will lead to a greater opening of markets. People will become strong only if they are able to create their future from within themselves and in freedom.

Freedom is an indivisible whole.

Mr President,

One does not strengthen democracy if at the same time women and men cannot find decent work to which to dedicate their efforts. This cannot be achieved with only assistance but with freedom of trade.

Lastly, Mr. President, Uruguay is a country that is committed to the international system and to the progressive development of international law, whose most recent expression has been the establishment of the International Criminal Court, of which its Statute we have ratified.

Uruguay reaffirms its conviction that multilateralism is the main principle upon which the conduct of the international affairs must be based and aspires, from an operational perspective, for the region and the world to combine their efforts, in a realistic and committed approach.

It therefore continues to believe in the United Nations as an institution that can always be improved, recognizing in it our best collective instrument in the search for peace.