



Rome International Model United Nations

4th SESSION 2010

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Statement by the Secretary-General Mr. Lorenzo Colajacomo at the 1st meeting of the General Assembly, held on 19 March 2010

Excellences,
Distinguished Members of the Assembly,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our Planet is alive and, as a living entity, is changing. Life means transformation, evolution, learning, change. It has been so since the very beginning. In the recent years, however, our World has experienced a terrible acceleration of its continuous transformation processes.

The World population has reached the total number of almost 7 billion people. The 2008-2010 economic and financial global crisis has had an impact on life of everyone, young and old, rich and poor, from the colossus bank to the little farmer. The twisting of this precarious economic and financial balance has caused the changing all habits in our high life. Earthquakes like the one in Haiti that has upset everyone's heart, Tsunamis, environmental issues on which we are still trying to find a working solution, even Mother Nature seems to participate in increasing the insecurity of all.

The fact of the matter is that instability, or almost stability, is the normal condition and behavior of all phenomena that occur in nature. In a World of total stability, changes should not take place. Total stability means the end of evolution, science, research, but also the end of wishes and dreams. It will be the end of our planet.

Therefore we should not be worried that changes happen. We must study and analyze these changes, understand them, and define tools and actions that will allow us to manage the complex systems hosting and feeding these changes.

Remember the first three words of the Charter of the United Nations:

"We the Peoples of the United Nations [...]"

Different people in the same big family here to cooperate, to build a concrete multilateralism with the ideas and the engagement of all of you. This is the magic bullet!

We can build the future!

But by speaking of complex systems we must turn the attention to the dramatic situation of International Policy. It is a system in continuous evolution, characterized by great turbulences, tensions, misunderstandings and fierce ideological contrasts that have been persisting for too many years.



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There are some signals that must worry all of us:

- the coming back of the nuclear armaments issue, refreshing unpleasant memories of the time of the "Army Peace", ended in 1989 with the fall of the Berlin Wall;
- the asymmetric warfare: elegant way to define the unbearable horror of Terrorism;
- the too many, almost forgotten, conventional wars being fought on too many battlefields in the World: from Darfur to Pakistan, from India to Chad Civil Wars and so on, not to mention the Middle East situation.

Negative, frightening signals, that must not stop us from doing our best to design a better future.

We can build the future!

Our generation, and the coming ones, have the moral duty to accept the challenges. Beating poverty is one of these challenges. There are more than one billion people that go to bed hungry each night, and since too much time Developing Countries are just that: developing without ever having reached a stage of prosperity that allows them not to be listed as Least Developed Countries.

Reinforcing the role of the United Nations is another challenge. We need an improved and effective World Governance to limit, as much as possible, hysterical reactions from players pushed only by short term individual interests.

Having these challenges in mind, knowing that there is a role for us to play, we begin this fourth session of the Rome International Model United Nations with the consciousness that

we can build the future.

Many problems are on the table. By definition a problem is a problem if, and only if, it has, at least, a solution. In the next days we will devote our efforts under the stimulus of these problems to find possible solutions that have to be shared, effective, efficient, that take in due account the needs and peculiarities of different cultures, values, traditions of every community. Solutions that leverage and boost changes, because changes are always positive if there is a learning, if they make this planet a better World to share.

We can build the future.

Past is history. Today will become history tomorrow. The future, we can shape it.

The World changes and can be changed.