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Admission of new Members to the United Nations

Letter dated 2 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 2 March 1992, the Republic of Kazakhstan was accepted as a member of the United Nations at the plenary meeting of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, thereby becoming a full-fledged actor in international relations.

For all these years, Kazakhstan has been fruitfully cooperating with the United Nations as a coherent advocate and active promoter of its ideals and goals. The interaction between Kazakhstan and the United Nations has become a truly rewarding and dynamic success story, showcasing Kazakhstan as a responsible and proactive member of the world community.

I am confident that Kazakhstan will continue its productive engagement with the United Nations to build a better future for the country, the region and the world.

I would, therefore, be grateful if the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the country's joining the United Nations (see annex) could be disseminated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 118.

(Signed) Magzhan Ilyassov
Ambassador



Annex to the letter dated 2 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the country's joining the United Nations

On 2 March 1992, the Republic of Kazakhstan was accepted as a member of the United Nations at a plenary meeting of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, thereby becoming a full-fledged actor in international relations.

As a responsible and reliable member of the international community, Kazakhstan has pursued a balanced, predictable and constructive foreign policy throughout its 30 years of independence, and it fully supports the central role of the United Nations in resolving pressing international issues.

By voluntarily relinquishing the world's fourth largest nuclear arsenal, Kazakhstan has made a real contribution to maintaining peace and international security, to disarmament, and to strengthening the regime for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In December 2009, the General Assembly proclaimed the date of the closure of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site in Kazakhstan – 29 August – as the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

Kazakhstan is a co-founder of the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone. At the initiative of Kazakhstan, a General Assembly resolution entitled “Universal Declaration on the Achievement of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World” is adopted on a regular basis. The Declaration reflects the determination of all States to move step by step towards a nuclear-weapons-free world.

In 1992, from the rostrum of the United Nations, Kazakhstan put forward a proposal to convene the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, which today has become a real factor in ensuring security and cooperation, uniting 27 countries of the Asian continent. Given the growing demand for confidence-building measures, Kazakhstan is working with its partners to transform the Conference into the Organization for Security and Development in Asia.

Kazakhstan has ratified all 19 universal counter-terrorism conventions and protocols and plays an active role in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. At the initiative of Kazakhstan, a Code of Conduct towards Achieving a World Free of Terrorism was formulated and opened for signature in 2018, and the Code has now been signed by 89 countries.

Since 2017, Kazakhstan has hosted 17 rounds of the Astana Process on Syria, which is designed to facilitate United Nations efforts to resolve the protracted conflict. Kazakhstan was also one of the first States to repatriate its citizens, and in particular hundreds of women and children, from conflict zones in the Middle East.

Kazakhstan is contributing to the international community's efforts to stabilize the situation in Afghanistan. Humanitarian aid is provided to the Afghan population on a regular basis, while national and international programmes to educate Afghan youth, including girls, are being implemented at educational institutions in Kazakhstan. The opening in Almaty of the temporary remote office of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan constitutes recognition of the role of Kazakhstan and the trust of the Organization in our country.

Kazakhstan is convinced that promoting an ideology of tolerance, mutual understanding and cultural diversity is key to combating hatred and discrimination. The Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, which has been held in Kazakhstan since 2003 and was attended by the Secretary-General and the heads of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, is an example of interfaith dialogue. The Seventh Congress will be held in September 2022 in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan is an active participant in United Nations peacekeeping activities, sending peacekeepers and military observers to United Nations missions and providing peacekeeping courses that have been approved by the United Nations.

The election of Kazakhstan to the United Nations Security Council for the period 2017–2018 was recognition of the country's active work in strengthening peace and international security.

In order to strengthen the system of risk management with regard to biological threats and also to promote the use of biological developments exclusively for peaceful purposes, the President of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, proposed at the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly an initiative to create the International Biological Security Agency.

The Republic of Kazakhstan is contributing to international efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In order to ensure practical development results, a national architecture for the Sustainable Development Goals has been established.

Despite its high dependence on fossil fuels, Kazakhstan intends to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent by 2030 and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060.

“KazAID”, the official development assistance agency, was established in 2020 to help Central Asian countries and Afghanistan to promote the Sustainable Development Goals. We propose the establishment in Almaty of a United Nations regional centre for the Sustainable Development Goals in order to coordinate development activities in the Central Asian region.

Kazakhstan attaches particular importance to respect for universal human rights and freedoms. Our country has acceded to all the core instruments and conventions of the United Nations in the area of human rights protection. Efforts are ongoing to bring national human rights legislation into compliance with international standards. Close cooperation with the relevant United Nations institutions ensures high standards of compliance with our international commitments. The election of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Human Rights Council for the term 2022–2024 confirms the commitment of our State to promoting fundamental human rights and freedoms at the national and international levels.

The efforts of President Tokayev and our people are currently aimed at building an economically sustainable, socially just and democratically developed State – a new Kazakhstan – based on the principle “leave no one behind”.

Celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of its joining the United Nations, Kazakhstan reaffirms its strong commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law. The United Nations remains indispensable as the only universal organization serving the interests and urgent needs of all humankind.

Kazakhstan will continue to contribute to strengthening the role and authority of the United Nations and to all areas of its activity in order to realize our collective aspiration for a better and happier future.

2 March 2022