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Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations

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Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations" and 56/6 of 9 November 2001 entitled "Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations",

Reaffirming the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ adopted on 8 September 2000 which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, and neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome document,² adopted on 16 September 2005, which considers, inter alia, that all cultures and civilizations

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

contribute to the enrichment of humankind, acknowledges the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world and underlines the commitment of Member States to taking action to promote a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Underlining that all civilizations celebrate the unity and diversity of humankind and are enriched and have evolved through dialogue with other civilizations and that positive and mutually beneficial interaction among civilizations has continued throughout human history despite impediments arising from intolerance, disputes and wars,

Underlining also that the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations³ has been a key initiative in the promotion of greater understanding among civilizations and people around the world,

Reaffirming the objectives and principles of dialogue among civilizations, as elaborated in the Global Agenda,

Reiterating that dialogue among civilizations is a process between and within civilizations, founded on inclusion, and a collective desire to learn, uncover and examine assumptions, unfold shared meanings and core values, and integrate multiple perspectives through dialogue,

Emphasizing that the hearts and minds of the next generation are the real object of the dialogue among civilizations,

Welcoming the numerous initiatives and efforts to further promote dialogue among civilizations undertaken by States, the United Nations system including the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and other international and regional organizations and civil society and non-governmental organizations, and the value of different initiatives on dialogue among cultures and civilizations, including the dialogue on interfaith cooperation and the initiative of the Alliance of Civilizations,

Commending the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its contribution to implementing the Global Agenda by including it in its medium-term strategy for 2002-2007 with a view to achieving its strategic objective of safeguarding cultural diversity and encouraging dialogue among cultures and civilizations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General⁴ submitted to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session in accordance with resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001;

2. *Expresses its firm determination* to further facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations;

3. *Affirms* that, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,⁵ concrete and sustained activities should be designed and implemented in all regions by the widest possible range of partners and stakeholders;

³ See resolution 56/6.

⁴ A/60/259.

⁵ See resolution 56/6, sect. B.

4. *Reaffirms* that Member States have committed themselves to advancing human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, and to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples;

5. *Invites* States, international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to develop appropriate ways and means at the local, national, regional and international levels to further promote dialogue and mutual understanding among civilizations and to report on their activities to the Secretary-General;

6. *Invites* the United Nations system to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore enhancing implementation mechanisms of the Global Agenda and of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.
