



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SURINAME
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York - USA



ADDRESS BY

HER EXCELLENCY MARIA ELIZABETH LEVENS

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME

59th REGULAR SESSION OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL DEBATE

New York — U.S.A.

September 30, 2004

Mr. President of the General Assembly,
Colleague Ministers of Foreign Affairs,
Permanent Representatives,
Delegates,

On behalf of the Government and People of the Republic of Suriname I extend to you my sincere congratulations on your unanimous election to guide the affairs of this 59th

have been battered, one country has severely been damaged: Grenada. Mr. President, I join all those other nations that have called for immediate as well as long-term financial and technical assistance to the Government and People of Grenada.

The Government of Suriname offers its condolences to the victims in the Caribbean countries, as well as in the affected states in the United States of America, where the various hurricanes over the past weeks have caused considerable damage and loss of lives.

Mr. President,

Another global threat which impacts on all countries emanates from the activities of terrorists, terrorist groups and state sponsored terrorism. The world will never forget the images of the horrifying terrorist acts in Chechnya; Russia, where hundreds of persons, mostly children, lost their lives. The Government of Suriname remains committed to the fight against terrorism. We also continue to believe that an effective and successful battle can be achieved through a comprehensive approach.

The high-level panel on threats, challenges and change established by the Secretary General of the United Nations with a view to receiving a global report on international security is a result of the renewed interest in international security concerns. We hope that this review will be one that will produce result oriented objectives and measures.

Suriname believes that development issues, such as eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of the environment are among the extremely important aspects to be addressed if one wishes to obtain lasting and comprehensive security, which encompasses inter alia military, political, environmental, economic and social developmental aspects.

Mr. President,

Globalization has up to the present day not delivered on the promise of vast development opportunities on a global scale. While we have to acknowledge that globalization has created opportunities, it has been restricted to just a few societies. The opportunities

The poverty meeting organized by the Government of Brazil under the auspices of the United Nations signifies the common awareness that the global development agenda must be advanced and therefore the International community must move from political will to actions and from commitments to implementation, granting humanity as a whole an opportunity to develop.

Mr. President,

The upcoming ten-year review of the Barbados Program of Action will provide the small island developing states with a momentous opportunity to promote their priority interests and concerns for the next phase of implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action.

While we anticipate that this comprehensive review will result in concrete proposals to advance the implementation process, we also expect that this review exercise will take place in a spirit of partnership.

The upcoming Mauritius meeting should therefore generate the most needed support,