

**The Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriya  
General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and  
International Cooperation**

**Speech of  
Mr. Abdulrahman Mohamed Shalgham**

**Secretary of General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison  
and International Cooperation**

**Delivered at**

**The G-77 +China Second South Summit Conference**

**Doha – Qatar  
15 to 16/06/2005**

**Mr. Chairman**

**Your Excellencies the Heads of States and Governments**

**Your Excellencies The Ministers**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**It is a pleasure for me and for my delegation to express to you our warmest congratulations for your election as Chairman of this very important summit. Allow me also to address our deepest thanks and appreciation to the people and government of the brotherly State of Qatar for the outstanding organization of the summit and for the generosity and warm hospitality we have been accorded since our arrival to this dear country. I avail myself of this opportunity to hail President Fidel Castro, Chairman of the First South Summit for his efforts and contribution to achieve the objectives of our group.**

**Mr Chairman,**

**Close economic cooperation has become an important strategy followed by developing countries during the last 40 years. The creation of the G-77 and the UNCTAD in 1964 helped to pave the road towards the introduction of cooperation among developing countries in their institutional system. Therefore, the need for cooperation and solidarity among developing countries was crucial in order to carry out changes in international trade as well as monetary and financial systems and cooperation in international development to better meet the needs of developing countries and achieve their interests.**

**In this context the G-77's participation as the structure which would coordinate and concretize the positions of developing countries in the economic fields assume major importance. This group is entitled to participate in a coherent, integrated and developing agenda based upon the MDG's, Havana Programme of Action, Doha Program of Action and of Monterey and Johannesburg outcomes.**

**The conditions under which the G-77 was created has since then changed in many aspects of its components .The bilateral international system collapsed and in spite of the all the inconveniencies of the current situation and one of the most salient of them is the disequilibrium in the process of international balance. It is in our hands that our states transform this era into one which enjoys peace and order and prevailed by mutual respect and governed by common interests, provided that we are determined and have a precise perception of what we want to achieve. We should also define our objective and develop our vision, consolidate the capacity of work mechanism in order to utilize our huge national resources, large geographical area and human resource, which do not lack creativity, to achieve more progress for our countries and the whole mankind.**

**In order for our group to have an articulate significance in the eyes of the people for whom it has been established we should form together an economic, trade, industrial and educational partnership as well as partnerships in the fields of scientific research, construction and investment. It is the only way to enable us to interact with the rest of the world from a position of strength as equals without exploiting others or be exploited by them. This would take us out of being mere raw material exporting countries and a market for the consumption of others' products .**

**Mr. Chairman,**

Since the South Summit in Havana, the world has witnessed numerous developments. For us in Africa, the major development has been the establishment of the African Union, which constitutes a new stage in our continent and likely to eradicate spots of tension, disputes, eliminate dissension and disunity. It goes without saying that the African Union members are the largest gathering which could be of a great support to G-77 and China in addressing challenges imposed by huge challenges. Part of the positive aspects of international conditions is the success attained in the settlement of many regional disputes in Africa and other regions. We are quite satisfied with the international attention accorded to the issues related to the promotion of development, preservation of the environment and the enhancement of human rights. Such developments are very encouraging in themselves. But it should be made plain that today's world is still far from attaining the desired peace and security. Deterioration of the environment is threatening life on earth. We have not succeeded yet in eliminating all acts of violence and armed conflicts. Many among us are still suffering from arbitrary measures and unjust decisions imposed by a great power. Reality shows that there are many obstacles which prevent the acquisition of the necessary technology for the development of our countries in addition to the suffering caused to us by the international economic environment, its protective restriction and arbitrary procedures. Moreover, today's world has not yet got rid of criminal activities such as the illegal trade in light weapons and other forms of transnational organized crimes.

**Mr. Chairman,**

All these issues require us to conceive common positions in terms of tackling and modifying them. It goes without saying that we strongly support all programmes aimed at combating

all forms of discrimination whatever the allegations and the justifications on which they are based. It is of paramount importance that we reiterate our will to face the serious phenomenon of illegal spread of drugs, as well as highlight our demand to return our antiquities and manuscripts which were stolen during the colonial period. We should also underline our condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and call for international action under the patronage of the United Nations which defines terrorism, determines its causes and draws up plans likely to uproot and eliminate it. It is unconceivable to deal with this phenomenon individually or to confuse terrorism with legal struggle for independence and self-determination. We should strongly reject the continued linkage by some people of the phenomenon of terrorism with a specific faith or nationality while ignoring the fundamental truth which says that terrorism has no religion or nationality. It is very important to confirm that there will be no international peace and order unless all weapons of mass destruction have been eliminated. In this regard, we call upon the G-77 to adopt a resolution on the destruction of such weapons in all countries of the world without exception within an agreed timetable. My country has taken a step forward in that direction since it has voluntarily decided to get rid of all programmes and equipment used in the production of internationally banned weapons. We think that it is an example which should be followed by all states if we want people of this world to enjoy peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

We in the G-77 would gain much more if we unify our efforts more closely. In this regard, we should work jointly and with others to eradicate poverty, hunger, unemployment and disease in order to achieve justice for every body and equity for destitute people. The proven truth is that the crucial factor to accelerate the achievement of sustainable development of

our countries is mainly the responsibility of our peoples. It is also important to rectify unjust economic relationships between the Third World and the dominant international institutions, namely the International Bank and IMF as well as putting an end to unjust and arbitrary policies pursued against developing countries. We consider that our efforts should be backed by an international action leading to a radical solution to the external debt issue and removing obstacles against access of our products to international markets and honouring the ODA pledges to our countries, not to forget the removal of other obstacles such as individual unilateral laws, selective penalties aimed at paralyzing the defensive and economic capacities of many of our countries. We should also not forget the mines that had been planted by colonialists in our territories which continue to kill our children, destroy our properties, hinder our efforts in desertification and expansion of the field of land reclamation. Despite my country's suffering from mines laid by colonial countries in our lands, which still impede our development efforts and kill our citizens, we have attached great importance to South-South cooperation as an inalienable strategy. Our role in this field has been reflected at the bilateral level in the process of dispute resolution, establishing peace and carrying out many joint projects in agriculture, economy, transport and investment with several developing countries especially in Africa. In this context, my country participates in financing the South-South Healthcare Programme for Less-developed Countries as well as setting up healthcare centers in Burkina Faso, Chad and Seralion. The number of physicians working in this programme has reached 183 from Libya, Nigeria and Cuba. Stemming from this, we expect that the South-South Healthcare Programme witness expanding participation by members of the 77-Group so that we will be able to assist less-developed countries to improve health conditions which are considered the greatest hindrance to development in these countries.

**Mr. Chairman,**

**There are other issues which we should stress here, the most important being the reform of the United Nations. My country considers it essential to introduce amendments to the Organization's Charter to ensure democracy in the activities of its organ and transfers the powers of the Security Council to the General Assembly so that the Council would be an executive instrument of its own resolutions. General Assembly resolutions should be binding. In the framework of the process of UN reform, emphasis should be laid on the necessity of accelerating the reform of the Security Council by expanding its membership to enable the African Union to become a permanent member of the Security Council besides Latin America as well as introducing further improvements to its methods of work and abolish all that hinders undertaking its functions, particularly the outdated "veto" prerogative. To maintain it means to undermine the rules of democracy and destroy the principle of equality guaranteed by the UN Charter.**

**Within this context, the G-77 should ensure (at the UNGA 60th High-level Session) the activation of the goals approved by all at the Millennium Summit and define our positions on the major issues to be considered by the United Nations this year.**

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman**