

**THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**

Lebanese Presidency

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**The Address of His Excellency  
President General Emile Lahoud**

**At**

**The G77 & China Summit Meeting  
In Doha-Qatar**

**From June 14- to June 16 2005**

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, Prince of the State of Qatar,  
Majesties, Excellencies,

First I would like to express my gratitude to the Prince, government and people of the brotherly State of Qatar, for hosting this important congress, which stands in the face of a shaft that divides our contemporary world between a wealthy and prosperous North, and a riddled South, that combats poverty and its consequences.

Venerable audience,

We should not forget that in a world without boundaries, where a digital reality have changed the rules of the game due to the technological advances of our age, resources cannot be seen as of the realm of wealthy countries, as its problems cannot be seen as distinct from those of developing countries. The problems of illegal immigration – which Lebanon suffers from and is hence joining the fight against – and what Europe currently faces in currents against this immigration, are evidence of the urgency with which we should tackle the root causes of such a problem.

The political problem then, is how to work together in order to achieve a just and balanced world order, as the United Nations is trying to achieve, in cooperation with diverse and diversified international groups.

Here then, lie the grounds of reforming the United Nations, and the means to its efficiency, in order to achieve a global acceptance and adherence to its charts and resolutions, as it promotes equality between member countries, and abides by its long held "non-interference" in their internal affairs.

Venerable audience,

Our States, which are trying through this convention to strengthen their cooperation and economic ties, in order to create further chances for their development, and getting out of the circle of negative consumerism, are hence stronger and more able to correct the economic and political imbalances.

For the resources of our countries, be they human, industrial, commercial, productive, are manifold and voluminous. And these resources need modern and global plans in order to be implemented, and changed into development and modernity.

The aim of our mutual economic cooperation is to break the economic and commercial isolation and correct the imbalance in world economies, in order to prevent the problems of poverty and dependence of becoming worldwide crises, feeding the gene pools of fanaticism, isolationism and terrorism.

Venerable audience,

We have taken notice in the Middle East region how poverty, the absence of justice, as well as turning a blind eye to injustice, have spurred conflicts, wars and fanaticism.

We see no way out of this except through the application of international law and resolutions, most notably UN security Council resolutions 242 and 338, as well as the actual implementation of the return of Palestinian refugees to their homeland according to resolution 194, and their non-settlement in their host countries, among them Lebanon.

Only then can we talk about a Middle East heading towards a Just and comprehensive peace, where security and prosperity can correlate as the cornerstones of our societies.

Venerable audience,

From this very pulpit I have to remind the world that Lebanon is still threatened daily by Israel, through its occupation of our land in the Shebaa Farms, through its imprisonment of dozens of our citizens, through its daily violations of our territorial integrity, and its abuse of citizens on our own land.

And what is happening in Lebanon is a striking example of what an international imbalance of justice may lead to.

Venerable audience,

In conclusion, I wish for this convention to be a further link in the procession of cooperation between our countries, on all levels, political, economic, developmental and cultural, in order to build a world for our children, where human morals are the norm and high standards could prevail.

Thank you.