



General Assembly

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Excerpt by S.E.R. – Foundation D

International Year of Reconciliation

A draft resolution on the International Year of Reconciliation, 2009 (document A/61/L.22) would have the Assembly, recognizing that reconciliation processes are particularly necessary and urgent in countries and regions of the world having suffered, or which are suffering, from situations of conflict that have affected and divided societies in their various internal, national and international facets, decide to proclaim 2009 the International Year of Reconciliation.

It would also invite concerned Governments and international and non-governmental organizations to support reconciliation processes among affected and/or divided societies and to plan and implement adequate cultural, educational and social programmes to promote the concept of reconciliation, including holding conferences and seminars and disseminating information about the issue.

Introducing the text, Nicaragua's representative said that the Year was a vehicle for creating a fraternal human society, based on values such as truth and justice, and for restoring the unity of mankind now separated by ethnic, religious and other kinds of conflicts. Reconciliation between those estranged by conflicts was the only way to confront today's challenges and the process and practice of reconciliation must be promoted by States; between men and women, nature and humanity, and wherever fraternity and justice were absent from human relations. It provided new paradigms for the concept that it was impossible to live without others, but that it was possible to live in peace with them. The initiative had the support of Governments, institutions of higher learning, civil society groups, the alliance of civilizations and the culture of peace.

He said that there was no true human culture as long as war was considered an acceptable way of dealing with problems. Reconciliation was a way of embedding into culture the high ideals beyond petty concerns, a process that made humanity and the common good the cornerstone of development. Reconciliation between those estranged by conflicts was the only way to confront today's challenges and the process and practice of reconciliation must be promoted by States; between men and women, nature and humanity, and wherever fraternity and justice were absent from human relations. The initiative had the support of governments, institutions of higher learning, civil society groups, the alliance of civilizations and the culture of peace.

Next, the draft resolution was adopted without a vote.

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