



**Alliance of Civilizations  
Group of Friends Ministerial Meeting**

**New York, 24 September 2008  
Summary Report**

The Alliance of Civilizations Group of Friends (GoF) Ministerial Meeting took place on September 24, 2008, focusing on the prospects of the Alliance over the next five years and some of the key challenges ahead as it endeavors to efficiently address growing cultural divides. The ministerial deliberations will guide the High Representative in the later development of the Alliance's 2<sup>nd</sup> Implementation Plan beyond 2009, to be presented after the Second Forum, which the Turkish Government will host in early April 2009.

Prior to the meeting, the High Representative had shared preliminary thoughts on the Alliance's future in a draft annotated agenda (circulated to participants) and suggested the following core sub-themes for discussion: 1) preventive diplomacy and the role of the Alliance in peace building and conflict prevention at large, namely through city diplomacy; 2) promotion of peace and effective engagement with religious communities; 3) the Alliance as a platform to work differently on divisive issues. In addition, participants were invited to share views on the National Strategies for Cross-Cultural Dialogue. The Ministers, in turn, took the opportunity to report on national developments, in particular the appointment of Focal Points for the Alliance-related matters and the implementation of initiatives in line with the Alliance's objectives.

## **I. Opening Remarks**

1.1 The Secretary-General of the United Nations opened the Ministerial Meeting with welcoming remarks to the newcomers in the Group of Friends, and to the distinguished delegates. His main reflection on the Alliance's role and objectives ahead included<sup>1</sup> the following:

- The Alliance has a unique opportunity to overcome divisions and build trust in the world through political, financial and strategic support provided by the growing community of Friends. It can provide a platform to discuss sensitive issues creatively and constructively, cutting through polarized positions and tackling difficult questions from new angles and with new encouraging ideas.
- It builds understanding through practical solutions and delivering concrete results. By mobilizing an impressive array of different players (governments, philanthropists, corporations, the media, activists, academics, etc), the Alliance launched a number of its major initiatives at the Madrid Forum in January 2008 and documented progress has been already made. Collectively, these projects are giving immeasurable boost to conflict prevention as one of the core priorities of the Secretary-General. Therefore, it is playing a fundamental role in preventive diplomacy.

1.2 On behalf of the President of the UN General Assembly, 63<sup>rd</sup> Session, his Chef de Cabinet then delivered the latter's statement, sharing the goals and aspirations of the Alliance. More specifically:

- The President of the UN General Assembly finds himself part of the community of Friends of the Alliance, having the crossing path to the aspirations of this initiative. The path is built towards establishing of the global governance as one of the core priorities for the General Assembly Presidency's work.
- The President called for a broad dialogue on the issues of democratization and shaping discussion of the Meeting around it. In his conviction, '...once we have rediscovered our common humanity and embraced the truth that we are all of the same kind, it becomes a lot easier to talk openly and freely. We are, after all, among Friends'.

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<sup>1</sup> The full text of the UN Secretary-General's speech is available on the [www.un.org](http://www.un.org)

1.3 Introducing the debate with Ministers and other representatives, the High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations briefly focused on the main priorities and tasks ahead to advance the Alliance<sup>2</sup>. These priorities include:

- Increasing the number of National Strategies for Cross-Cultural Dialogue and organizing the first meeting of the AoC's Focal Points in October 2008, dedicated to this issue. The Ministers were encouraged to accelerate the process of appointment of their Focal Points and to move ahead with National Strategies.
- Consolidating the Alliance within the UN system, by developing synergies with the UN agencies, commissions and offices around the world through flexible working methods, and advancing the formal inscription of the Alliance on the 2009 agenda of the UN General Assembly. While the former would allow the Alliance to become a sustainable working initiative, the latter would strengthen the Alliance's credibility, legitimacy and political accountability, notwithstanding its *sui generis* nature.
- Making the next Forum a success. Together with the host Government of Turkey, the High Representative and the Secretariat have started to work on the preparations for the Istanbul Forum in April 2009, drawing on the lessons learned from the Madrid Forum and aiming to propel the Alliance into its next stage as a fully-fledged initiative.

## **II. Ministerial Exchange of Views on Alliance's Prospects Over Next Five Years**

### **Peace Building and Conflict Prevention and Place of the Alliance in the UN System**

- A number of Ministers confirmed that they saw the Alliance as "part of the available arsenal of preventive diplomacy" and that the role of the High Representative should be further reinforced in that perspective, with one delegation stating that it saw such role more in the prevention of crises than in the management of post-crisis reconstruction. One of the sponsors (Spain) suggested that the Alliance could become the nucleus of a fourth- politico-cultural - pillar of the UN, supplementing the three existing ones, namely: security, human rights, and development. In such perspective, the Alliance would develop into a UN crisis management instrument, whenever an international crisis with the roots in cultural and religious diversity arises. Two delegations recommended caution and suggested that the Alliance should not take up more than it could handle, nor duplicate existing bodies for peace-building. They rather believed that the preventive function of the Alliance rested in a further expansion of what it already did through such instruments and policies as the Rapid Response Media Mechanism, the Youth Solidarity Fund, the educational initiatives.
- There was relatively little debate on the more specific proposal to start work on a draft Resolution, for approval by the General Assembly. The idea was favorably commented upon by a few delegations, which saw benefits in terms of credibility, legitimacy and political accountability. Obviously, the degree of interest and support would eventually depend on the precise content of the text to be submitted and it was understood that some preliminary attempts to produce a draft would soon be made. In the discussion, the point was made that, should the Alliance become part of the UN General Assembly agenda, it should nevertheless preserve its flexibility and not be dragged into heavy bureaucratic structures. Flexibility was a key element stressed by several speakers, as for instance the Slovak Minister.
- The role of the High Representative was found essential and crucial to advance the Alliance and strengthen its credibility within the UN system and beyond. Many delegations thanked him for his active engagement and high visibility.

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<sup>2</sup> The full statement of the High Representative is available upon request.

## **Promotion of Peace and Effective Engagement with Religious Communities**

- The extent to which the Alliance should engage with religions and faith-based initiatives was broached in a number of interventions. The first point made by several friends, such as France and Korea, was that diversity cannot be reduced to any one religion or any one culture and that identity is based on many different elements, religion being (only) one of them, as notably underlined by the Netherlands and Turkey. The Alliance should thus steer clear of forcing people into boxes of singular identity.
- This did not mean however that the Alliance should not engage religious leaders in appropriate circumstances, “due attention being paid to the differences between religious and secular states”, as stressed by Brazil and a few other delegations. On the contrary, recognizing their tremendous potential to advance the Alliance’s objective, a greater engagement of religious leaders in relevant activities of the Alliance, alongside other partners and stake-holders, could be further explored.
- The suggestion was made that the Alliance should harness the possible contribution of inter-faith initiatives, by providing a “connecting forum for dialogue” between different initiatives. The representative of the Philippines believed that the Alliance was contributing positively to the various initiatives of interfaith dialogue and was supplementing efforts of the Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation and Peace.

## **Alliance as a Platform to Work on Divisive Issues**

- Part of the interventions revolved around the idea expressed by the UNSG that the Alliance is and could be ever more a platform, where friends can cut through polarized positions and tackle difficult questions from new angles. This idea has been welcomed by a number of members of the Group (to mention a few, by The EU Commission, Switzerland, Chile, Brazil) and, more generally, the need to foster genuine dialogue on critical and divisive issues was supported from many corners.
- At the same time, one or two delegations suggested that a degree of caution might serve the friends well, warning, as did Turkey that “the eventual replication, within the Group of Friends, of the well-known dividing lines which underpin and sustain some of the serious political issues of our day might undermine the special message of the Alliance”.

## **Alliance’s “regionalization” and co-operation with regional initiatives**

- The Group of Friends strongly supported a strategy to further develop regional initiatives backing the objectives of the Alliance. ‘Launching specific activities focusing on results and working on a local level with the local outcomes for a global effect’, as stated by the Swiss minister, is fully appreciated.
- In particular, the Alliance could be more engaged in the Union for the Mediterranean process, as suggested by Egypt, Austria, Greece, France, the EU Commission, as well as others. It was invited by Bulgaria and Romania to institutionalize its relations within the Western Balkans region, joining the South East European Cooperation Process and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. Greater anchoring of the Alliance’s themes into the Ibero-American forums was strongly advised by Chile.
- The Inter-Parliamentary Union, as well as other members of the Group, encouraged to put the Alliance’s objectives to the parliament’s agenda with an IPU as a possible platform for it.

## **Strategy and Role of the Group of Friends of the Alliance**

- Several friends, as Korea, Malaysia and France for instance, insisted that the Alliance should look beyond the relations between Islam and the West, to encompass the relations among all civilizations: prioritizing is necessary but we cannot give the appearance of excluding others
- In the course of the debate, it was widely underscored that the Alliance must remain a multi-stakeholder initiative, embracing government, civil society and foundations, international organizations and business community. Some other transversal points were also made.
- Members of the Group of Friends, it was stressed, could play an increasing role in shaping the Alliance's agenda through being invited to propose topics for discussion and organizing frequent meetings in a broad and sub-groups formats.
- The establishment of a network of the Focal Points was welcomed, as it will anchor the Alliance to the local level; facilitate delivering results and achieving the Alliance's objectives as part of its 'regionalization' and 'localization' strategies.
- Ministers recognized the importance of National Strategies for Cross-Cultural Dialogue, as recommended by the High Representative. They fully supported an initiative to convene the first meeting of the Focal Points in October 2008.
- Several countries confirmed that they are advancing on the adoption or the elaboration of their national strategies, as well as the appointment of the Focal Points. For instance, such briefing has been made by Slovakia, Argentina, Indonesia, Cyprus, the UK, Portugal, The Russian Federation, Chile, Morocco, Hungary, Croatia, Albania, Romania, etc.
- The vast majority of friends insisted on practical projects, on an Alliance that delivers. They praised and supported the continuation of existing projects in the 4 areas, some announcing further financial backing. There is no space here to mention all the instances of support for the RRMM, the launching of the media fund, work with media representatives, clearing houses, youth programs, youth solidarity fund, from Indonesia to Montenegro. Qatar usefully stressed that such projects will strengthen cooperation and understanding where differences of opinion, culture, religion and other related problems prevail, and could thus create conditions for peace negotiations in areas of conflict.

### **III. Group of Friends' Advancements Achieved and Announcements Made**

3.1 The Netherlands announced its decision to contribute more than 200,000 euros to the Alliance's Trust Fund in the coming year, aiming to support activities of the Alliance in the area of education. Being particularly interested in developing the Rapid Response Media Mechanism, The United Kingdom announced a readiness to provide funding to enhance, expand and develop this initiative.

3.2 European Commissioner B. Ferrero-Waldner, and EU High Representative, Javier Solana, signed a framework document for collaboration with the Alliance. This document with an action-oriented implementation plan is based on the commitment to the principles of democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

3.3 The League of Arab States has set up its internal organizational structures, aiming to pursue the Alliance's objectives. Currently, it is defining its own strategies to promote them and to use the power of dialogue for intercultural understanding.

3.4 Austria committed to participate and contribute to the Regional Strategies' approach, promoted by the AoC High Representative. In particular, it is organising a symposium on Identity and Participation – Muslim Youth in Europe, in spring of 2009. It also establishes a "Centre of Competence for Intercultural Capacity Building and Mediation".

3.5 New Zealand is developing two regional projects: a) a region-wide media program that will bring together journalists from the Asia-Pacific to discuss reporting and commentary on critical issues, especially where politics and religion intersect; b) development of an educational resource for high school-level students in the Asia-Pacific region that sets out common values held by people of differing religions and cultures.

3.6 Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) is finalizing preparations to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding with the Alliance. It is expected to be signed at the Istanbul Forum of the Alliance in April of 2009.

3.7 Argentina is working on the People-to People Initiative, aimed to bring together young Palestinians and Israelis who will share their experiences in the Argentinean region.

3.8 Brazil reiterated its suggestion to host the Third Forum of the Alliance in 2010.

3.9 In Hungary, the Municipality of Pécs (cultural capital of Europe in 2010) initiated to establish a new cultural route - the Islamic-built heritage route in Europe - in the framework of the Cultural Roots Program of the Council of Europe. It is aimed at preparation of a semantic dictionary, describing key words and their connotations in Europe and in the Islamic word.

3.10 Bulgarian universities, as well as their Spanish, Moroccan, and Romania counterparts, decided to jointly examine the role of school communities in preventing radicalization, in particular, of young Muslims.

3.11 Kazakhstan will convene a Ministerial Forum of the Common World: Progress through Diversity of Muslim and Western countries and The Third Congress of Religious Leaders. It has also launched an initiative to declare 2010 the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures.

3.12 Slovenian project - Euro Mediterranean University – is becoming a partner organization of the Alliance's University Network, aiming to promote intercultural dialogue in the field of education and research programs.

3.13 Romania has invited two prominent Rumanian personalities with an impressive cultural and historical background to act as National Ambassadors of the Alliance of Civilizations. This initiative has been suggested for further replication by other members of the Group of Friends. IN the view of Romanian delegate, it may, eventually, lead to an establishment of a network of national ambassadors for promoting Alliance at the national level and support activities of the AoC Ambassadors appointed by the UN Secretary-General.

3.14 Philippine President has issued an Executive Order (#7/14, March 2008) that transformed the National Committee on Interfaith Cooperation into the Council for Interfaith Initiatives, bolstering national efforts to harness interfaith dialogue to achieve greater peace, progress, and prosperity. In addition, Philippines will host a Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation in May 2009 and a Second Global Forum on Migration and Development in October 2008.

3.15 Albania informed about its commitment to convene a Forum on Inter-Confessional Dialogue in South-East Europe before the end of 2008.

#### **IV. Concluding Remarks and Suggested Move Forward**

The High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations closed the Ministerial Meeting with the words of highest appreciation of active participation, valuable comments and thoughts shared by the Ministers. He expressed a belief that the ministerial debate will be continued during the Istanbul Forum in April 2009. The High Representative welcomed an added attention of the Group of Friends to the National Strategies for Cross-Cultural Understanding, which are truly at the core of the Alliance's objectives. With the hopes to learn about new soon-to-be-adopted National Strategies, the Meeting was closed.

Trusteeship Council Chamber  
Alliance of Civilizations – Ministerial Meeting  
24 September, 2008

**List of Delegates**

<b>#</b>	<b>GoF member</b>	<b>Name, last name and title of the Head of delegation</b>
<b>Member States</b>		
<u>1</u>	Afghanistan	Mr. Seddiq Rassuli, Deputy Director, UN and International Conferences Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan
<u>2</u>	Albania	His Excellency Mr. Lulzim Basha, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania
<u>3</u>	Algeria	His Excellency Mr. Mourad Medelci, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
<u>4</u>	Argentina	His Excellency Mr. Jorge Taiana, Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Republic of Argentina
<u>5</u>	Australia	Mr. Peter Stone, Adviser, Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations
<u>6</u>	Austria	Her Excellency Ms. Ursula Plassnik, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria
<u>7</u>	Azerbaijan	Mr. Asif Garayev, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations
<u>8</u>	Bahrain	His Excellency Mr. Fouad Darwish, Ambassador, Acting Director of the International Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain
<u>9</u>	Bangladesh	His Excellency Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Adviser in charge of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
<u>10</u>	Belgium	His Excellency Mr. Olivier Belle, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations
<u>11</u>	Brazil	His Excellency Mr. Celso Luiz Nunes Amorim, Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil
<u>12</u>	Bulgaria	His Excellency Mr. Ivailo Kalfin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria
<u>13</u>	Canada	His Excellency Mr. Leonard Edwards, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada
<u>14</u>	Chile	His Excellency Mr. Juan Pablo Lira, Ambassador, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile
<u>15</u>	China	To be confirmed
<u>16</u>	Costa Rica	His Excellency Mr. Saúl Weisleder, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations
<u>17</u>	Croatia	His Excellency Mr. Gordan Jandrokovic, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia
<u>18</u>	Cyprus	Her Excellency Ms. Rea Yiordamlis, Ambassador, Political Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus
<u>19</u>	Czech Republic	Her Excellency Ms. Jana Kolackova, Deputy Minister of the Government for Human Rights and National Minorities of Czech Republic
<u>20</u>	Denmark	Mr. Ulrik Federspiel, Permanent Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
<u>21</u>	Egypt	His Excellency Mr. Ahmed About Gheit, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt
<u>22</u>	El Salvador	To be confirmed
<u>23</u>	Estonia	Ms. Marge Luup, Director of the Division, Department of Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia
<u>24</u>	Finland	Mr. Kai Sauer, Director of the Unit for United Nations and General Global Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
<u>25</u>	France	Ms. Sylvie Bermann, Director for United Nations and International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France
<u>26</u>	Germany	His Excellency Mr. Thomas Matussek, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations
<u>27</u>	Greece	His Excellency Mr. Yannis Valinakis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece
<u>28</u>	Hungary	Her Excellency Ms. Kinga Goncz, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary

<b>29</b>	India	Mr. S.B.Singh, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations
<b>30</b>	Indonesia	Mrs. Artauli Ratna Menara Panggabean Tobing, Head of Policy Planning and Development Agency, Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
<b>31</b>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Ali Hossaini, Deputy Minister for Legal and International Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran
<b>32</b>	Ireland	Ms. Orla McBreen, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations
<b>33</b>	Italy	Mr. Vincenzo Scotti, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy
<b>34</b>	Japan	To be confirmed
<b>35</b>	Jordan	Mr. Ayman Amiry, Director of the International Relations and Organization Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Jordan
<b>36</b>	Kazakhstan	His Excellency Mr. Marat Tazhin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan
<b>37</b>	Kuwait	Mr. Khalaf Bu Dhair, Counselor and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations, Ms. Aisha Al-Dikheel, Political Researcher, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait
<b>38</b>	Latvia	Ms. Aiga Liepiņa, Director of the Department for International Organisations and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia
<b>39</b>	Lithuania	His Excellency Mr. Oskaras Jusys, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania
<b>40</b>	Luxembourg	His Excellency Mr. Jean Asselborn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Luxembourg
<b>41</b>	Malaysia	His Excellency Mr. Datuk Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia
<b>42</b>	Malta	The Hon. Dr. Tonio Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta
<b>43</b>	Mexico	His Excellency Mr. Juan Manuel Gomez-Robledo, Ambassador, Under-Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico
<b>44</b>	Montenegro	The Honorable Mr. Milorad Scepovic, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro and Head of the Multilateral Department
<b>45</b>	Morocco	His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Azaroual, Ambassador and Director General for Multilateral Relations and Global Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco
<b>46</b>	Mozambique	His Excellency Mr. Oldemiro Marques Balói, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique
<b>47</b>	The Netherlands	His Excellency Mr. Maxime Verhagen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of The Netherlands
<b>48</b>	New Zealand	His Excellency Mr. Phil Goff, Minister of Trade and Disarmament and Arms Control of New Zealand
<b>49</b>	Norway	Her Excellency Ms. Mona Juul, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations
<b>50</b>	Oman	His Excellency Mr. Sayyid Badr Al-Busaidi, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Oman
<b>51</b>	Pakistan	Ms. Aqsa Nawaz, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations
<b>52</b>	Peru	His Excellency Mr. Antonio Garcia Rezilla, Ambassador, Under-Secretary General for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru
<b>53</b>	Philippines	His Excellency Mr. Alberto Gatmaitan Romulo, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Philippines
<b>54</b>	Poland	His Excellency Mr. Ryszard Schnepf, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland
<b>55</b>	Portugal	His Excellency Mr. Luís Filipe Marques Amado, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs, and His Excellency Mr. João Cravinho, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
<b>56</b>	Qatar	His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Mutib Al Rumaihi, Ambassador, Assistant Foreign Minister of Follow-Up Affairs of Qatar
<b>57</b>	Republic of Korea	His Excellency Mr. Oh, Joon, Deputy Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea
<b>58</b>	Romania	His Excellency Mr. Lazăr Comănescu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania
<b>59</b>	Russian Federation	His Excellency Mr. Alexander Yakovenko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
<b>60</b>	Senegal	Mr. El Hadji Magatte Seye, Second Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations

<b>61</b>	Serbia	Mr. Fedja Starcevic, Assistant Minister for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia
<b>62</b>	Slovakia	His Excellency Mr. Ján Kubiš, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovak Republic
<b>63</b>	Slovenia	His Excellency Mr. Dimitrij Rupel, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia
<b>64</b>	South Africa	His Excellency Mr. George Nene, Ambassador, Deputy Director-General of the Multilateral Department of Foreign Affairs of South Africa
<b>65</b>	Spain	His Excellency Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain
<b>66</b>	Sweden	His Excellency Mr. Carl Bildt, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden
<b>67</b>	Switzerland	Her Excellency Ms. Micheline Calmy-Rey, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Switzerland
<b>68</b>	Syrian Arab Republic	His Excellency Mr. Fayssal Mekdad, Vice Foreign Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic
<b>69</b>	Thailand	His Excellency Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations
<b>70</b>	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Mr. Zoran Dabik, State Counsellor for Collective Security Systems and Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
<b>71</b>	Tunisia	To be confirmed
<b>72</b>	Turkey	His Excellency Mr. Ali Babacan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey
<b>73</b>	Ukraine	Ms. Olga Kavun, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations
<b>74</b>	United Arab Emirates	His Excellency Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates
<b>75</b>	The UK	Honorary Dr. Kim Howells, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office
<b>76</b>	United Republic of Tanzania	His Excellency Mr. Bernard Kamilius Membe, MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania
<b>77</b>	Uruguay	His Excellency Mr. Gonzalo Fernández, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay
<b>78</b>	Yemen	His Excellency Mr. Abubakr A. Al-Qirbi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yemen
<b>International Organizations</b>		
<b>79</b>	ALECSO	Not represented
<b>80</b>	Council of Europe	His Excellency Mr. Terry Davis, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe
<b>81</b>	European Commission	Her Excellency Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Commissioner for External Relations
<b>82</b>	IOM	Mr. Luca Dall'Oglio, Permanent Observer to the United Nations, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
<b>83</b>	IPU	Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
<b>84</b>	ISESCO	Not represented
<b>85</b>	Latin Union	Not represented
<b>86</b>	League of Arab States	His Excellency Mr. Amr Moussa, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States
<b>87</b>	Organization of Islamic Conference	Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, OIC Secretary-General
<b>88</b>	OSCE	Mr. Jouni Laaksonen, Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary General of the OSCE
<b>89</b>	SG Ibero American	To be confirmed
<b>90</b>	UNESCO	Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General, UNESCO
<b>91</b>	UC & LG	Ms. Elizabeth Gateau, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments

The Meeting has been also attended by His Excellency Mr. Javier Solana, European Union High Representative, as well as Ms. Karen House, Senior Advisor, Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations (observer).