

**Agenda Item: 21**  
**(a) Globalization and Interdependence; &**  
**(b) International Migration and Development**  
**October 18, 2016**

**INDIA STATEMENT**

First Secretary Mr. Ashish Sinha at the  
Second Committee of the  
71<sup>st</sup> Session of the  
United Nations General Assembly

**Madam Chair,**

At the outset, I would like to thank the Secretary-General for the two statements on this agenda item.

India associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegate of Thailand on behalf of the Group of 77.

The inexorable trends towards globalization define the times that we live in. These continue to lead to ever greater inter-dependence among nations, communities and individuals on our planet.

**Madam Chair,**

Early globalization commenced through colonisation and industrial revolution that linked raw materials, markets and jobs thousands of miles apart. Over the past century and a half, emerging cross-border activities continued to multiply in the form of setting up of several organizations mandated with channelizing international cooperation in specific sectors.

This recognition of inter-dependence of acts by individual nations and therefore the need for institutionalised international cooperation to manage international relations was the basis for the creation of the United Nations itself in the wake of the World Wars. The UN along with the Bretton Woods institutions sought to address issues ranging from peace and security, social and economic to trade issues in an inter-dependent world.

Over the last three decades or so, the pace and intensity of globalization has been growing exponentially. Technological innovations again are driving this phase of globalization. The world today is much more inter-dependent.

ICT and Internet continue to transform our world. They enable seamless cross border investments and services transactions. Vastly improved connectivity is multiplying trade. Millions of people fly across borders daily.

Linking of markets for goods and financial services, alongwith changes in technology, are impacting countries in various ways in agriculture, manufacturing and services sectors. Economic prospects across continents and countries are becoming inter-dependent. A fact demonstrated clearly through the recent financial crises and the sustained rise and then current downturn in the prices of commodities.

**Madam Chair,**

A number of other relatively recent but serious challenges have emerged in the wake of globalization. The 2008 global financial crisis was unprecedented in its scale because of the extent of financial integration and the leverage allowed by such globalization.

Terrorism has emerged as one of the most serious global challenges. Groups spreading terror and hatred draw on recruits, finances and weapons from far and wide, bring home the collective nature of security in the world today.

There are other challenges such as pandemics that quickly spread across continents with modern travel. Social media is becoming a force of change, often not respecting any borders. Conflicts are leading to large scale movement of refugees reaching distant lands, impacting the absorptive capacities of nations and societies.

Our collective inter-dependence has also been made clear in recent decades through the realization of the human impact on global warming. The success being achieved in countries coming together to fast-track the implementation of the Paris Agreement from next month is a testimony to this collective concern. The adoption last week of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol is yet another instance of international cooperation for common interest.

The importance of sustainable development for the collective peace, prosperity and security of all, is now being recognised. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sendai Framework of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction are further examples of this collaborative approach.

India continues to play its part in strengthening these multilateral successes on addressing climate change and sustainable development challenges.

**Madam Chair,**

The United Nations has focused attention this year on the large scale movements of refugees and migrants in response to the events unfolding in certain parts of the world that are having ramifications far and wide.

Human mobility has shaped our world. India continues to host several communities that came seeking shelter and refuge over decades and centuries. India is also a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants.

We welcome the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants and look forward to contributing to the deliberations on developing a Global Compact on safe, orderly and regular migration.

Ancient Indian tradition viewed the entire world as one family, recognising the inter-connections even when they may not be apparent. This is manifest in our openness and respect for diversity and the spirit of co-existence and cooperation for greater strength. In the same spirit, Prime Minister Modi has called for '*Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas*' that means 'Together with all, Development for all'.

Any calls for protectionism and growing intolerance are misguided and anachronistic in today's world. Our destinies are increasingly inter-linked and a wiser and more mature cooperative approach is needed. We must not succumb to narrow competitive instincts. That can only be counter-productive in our inter-dependent world.

**Madam Chair,**

I would conclude by saying that a much more democratic and representative global governance is now essential to manage our complex and inter-dependent world.

Thank you.

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