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YEARS

of Kazakhstan-UN
Cooperation

On 2 March 1992, the Republic of Kazakhstan was unanimously admitted to the United Nations and became a full-fledged member of the world community. From that day the United Nations became the guarantor of sovereignty and an international rostrum for our newly independent state.

I had a chance to participate for the first time in the UN General Assembly during its 45th session in 1990 as Foreign Minister of Kazakh SSR and a member of the Soviet delegation. President Nazarbayev attached paramount importance to review and implementation of world experience in priority areas of social and economic development of sovereign Kazakhstan. In 1991, the documents of the 45th UN GA session were widely used for drafting national laws in social and economic areas; the Foreign Ministry organized, with UN assistance, an international review of the first national laws on foreign economic activities of the country.

Two days after Kazakhstan declared its independence in December 1991, the President assigned me to New York for making preparations to joining the United Nations and I had the honour to make a speech on behalf of the President and people of Kazakhstan on the plenary session of the General Assembly on the historical date of 2 March 1992. Working as the first Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the for almost 8 years I witnessed growing international authority of the young independent state due to Kazakhstan's consistent and well-balanced foreign policy based on the respect to and observance of rules and principles of the international law, its vigorous activities in the UN under multi-lateral diplomacy.

Kazakhstan's choice of nuclear-free status was appreciated by UN as a real contribution into strengthening nuclear non-proliferation regime, discontinuation and prohibition of nuclear tests.

It was the UN where Kazakhstan launched intensive diplomatic efforts to explain and promote the first Kazakhstan's international initiative to convene CICMA proposed by President Nazarbayev from the high UN rostrum on 5 October 1992. In 1990-ies the joint efforts of newly independent states in the UN, with active involvement of Kazakhstan, helped to elaborate internationally recognized legal framework for the integration of post-Soviet countries into the world economy and ensuring sustainable economic development of such countries. The resolution of the General Assembly initiated by Kazakhstan at the 48th session in 1993 for provision of assistance in the development of transit and transportation systems of land-locked states like Kazakhstan set the stage for subsequent UN activities in the new important area of economic interaction. Special GA Resolution for provision of assistance in economic and environmental recovery around the former Semipalatinsk nuclear test site adopted at Kazakhstan's initiative in 1997 became a legal basis for mobilizing wide international support and assistance.

The acquirement of unique UN experience in various areas of its activities facilitates progressive formation and development of our young independent state, its full integration into the world political and economic system.

In the 21st century in the context of globalization the United Nations remains to be the most effective instrument of global actions for addressing urgent global issues and Kazakhstan's cooperation with the UN will certainly increase and expand at a new level of interaction.

Akmaral ARYSTANBEKOVA,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
first Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the UN (1992-1999),
Foreign Minister (1989-1991)