Statement by

Mr. Tleuzhan Seksenbay
Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations
at the general debate of the Second Committee
of the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly

New York, 10 October 2013
Mr. Chairman,

Multiple global challenges, such as poverty, climate change, food, water and energy crises, and the worldwide economic downturn, are demanding more determined actions by the Second Committee, as the core starting point, but also to be addressed by the entire United Nations system.

As we approach the countdown to reach the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, we need to provide an accelerated momentum to realize our collective goals. Focus should be directed on the regions that still lag behind in achieving the MDGs, as well as, countries with special needs, such as the LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and others, calling for South-South cooperation and implementing ODA commitments, which have been flagging for the last two years. The priority areas continue to be poverty eradication, capacity-building, gender equality, as well as, transformation from relief to development. My delegation therefore supports the Outcome Document of the UN General Assembly on the MDG Special Event.

Notwithstanding these challenges, we are today at a historical juncture as we begin to implement the outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and ready to start conceptualizing the Post-2015 development agenda. In this regard, Kazakhstan was among the countries engaged in national consultations conducted by UNDP for this phase. The main principles that emerged are: the process should be global in nature but with national implications, be human-centered, and based on the rule of law and good governance. In light of this, the MDGs and SDGs need to be seen as dimensions of the sustainable development paradigm. We, therefore fully support the strengthening of ECOSOC to meet these challenges, and the activities of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (OWG SDGs), of which Kazakhstan is a member. Several other key processes have also been initiated.

We share the views of other delegations that these are the new road maps for sustainable development, together with the recommendations of the High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development. The Secretary-General’s report on Option for Facilitating the Development, Transfer and Dissemination of Clean and Environmentally Sound Technologies, holds great merit and we reiterate that the international community should promote initiatives for such a transfer of
technologies to developing countries. Among them is the “Green Bridge Partnership Programme” aimed to serve these purposes.

In light of the above, we believe that the establishment of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) will serve as a stronger and cohesive coordination platform to encompass economic, social and environmental dimensions. This new format meets the current realities in which sustainable development must obtain special political significance and priority. Kazakhstan chaired the 20th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, which is now replaced by the HLPF. The successes and shortcomings of the CSD over the two decades will provide valuable lessons learned for the Forum.

This also comes at a time when the LLDCs are deliberating on the preparatory process for the Comprehensive 10-year Review Conference on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action to be held in 2014. The objectives of this Conference are to help develop priorities for a new and more comprehensive action-oriented framework for the LLDCs in the next decade, while taking into account new challenges and opportunities.

Mr. Chairman,

In challenging times the world problems require adequate collective solutions, new approaches and bold actions. To this end Kazakhstan has suggested the creation of a G-Global - a virtual inclusive and transparent platform developed in the framework of the Astana Economic Forum. It provides all countries an equal voice and opportunity for an exchange of ideas to develop proposals and policies for overcoming the crises.

We believe that it is only genuine engagement and sustained common efforts that will succeed in remedying the shortcomings of the current financial and economic systems. We therefore invite all delegations to participate in the Second International Anti-Crisis Conference in Astana in May 2014. We count on your support for this important high-level meeting and advancement of an anti-crisis action plan.

To conclude, Kazakhstan stands ready to contribute to the multilateral effort to advance global, regional and national strategies for advancing development.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.