

United Nations Day
24th October 2024

Message by Mr Sylvestre Radegonde, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism

Today, we join the global community in commemorating United Nations (UN) Day, marking the signing of the UN Charter on 24 October 1945. Over the past seven decades, the United Nations has played a pivotal role in advancing global peace, fostering cooperation, and promoting sustainable development. This day serves as a reminder of the power of multilateralism and the shared responsibility we all have to address the world's most pressing challenges.

The Republic of Seychelles firmly aligns itself with the principles of the United Nations. We remain committed to supporting its efforts to address issues such as conflict resolution, human rights, and climate change. In a world increasingly fraught with geopolitical tensions and environmental crises, it is only through collective action and international cooperation that we can secure a peaceful and sustainable future.

Over the recent past, we have seen a marked increase in regional conflicts, resulting in significant humanitarian crises and the displacement of millions of people. The security landscape has become more volatile, highlighting the urgent need for renewed efforts in diplomacy and dialogue. The United Nations, as a cornerstone of global peace efforts, continues to play a critical role in promoting stability, but it is imperative that all nations strengthen their commitment to multilateralism. Without coordinated international action, the risks of global instability will only deepen.

As we mark this United Nations Day, Seychelles also reflects on the existential threat of climate change, particularly to small island states like our own. Rising sea levels, extreme weather, and the degradation of marine ecosystems pose severe risks to our environment, economy, and way of life. While Seychelles has been a leader in environmental protection and conservation, more must be done globally to address this crisis. We call upon the international community, especially the larger nations, to fulfil their obligations under the Paris Agreement and take urgent action to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

In addition to environmental challenges, global inequality continues to widen. The socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have disproportionately affected vulnerable populations, deepening disparities in health, education, and economic opportunity. The United Nations' commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is essential in ensuring that no one is left behind. Seychelles reaffirms its dedication to these goals, striving for a recovery that prioritises equity, social justice, and sustainable growth.

On this United Nations Day, let us renew our commitment to the values of cooperation, equity, and shared responsibility. Together, we can overcome the challenges we face and build a world guided by sustainability, peace, and justice for all. Only through united and determined action can we create a more resilient and inclusive future for generations to come.