

The following is an excerpt from the official meeting records of the General Assembly on March 15, 2006.

The complete transcript is available at
http://www.hrw.org/un/elections/pdfs/ga_mtg_en.pdf (English)
http://www.hrw.org/un/elections/pdfs/ga_mtg_fr.pdf (French)
http://www.hrw.org/un/elections/pdfs/ga_mtg_ar.pdf (Arabic)

Mr. Ferreira (Sao Tome and Principe): On behalf of the members of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries — Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe, and Timor-Leste — I would like to welcome the adoption of draft resolution A/60/L.48, which establishes the Human Rights Council. The Community would like to join others in commending you, Mr. President, and the Co-Chairmen — Ambassador Arias of Panama and Ambassador Kumalo of South Africa — for the tireless efforts towards that achievement.

With this important step in the implementation of the decisions of our heads of State and Government at the 2005 World Summit, the United Nations will be better equipped to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for everyone. The members of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries express their intention to participate actively in the work of this new body and to contribute to the effective fulfilment of its mandate.