

Your Highness, Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani, United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Mr. Jorge Sampaio, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sending you my greetings from Istanbul with all my love.

I have wanted to be among you at Doha Forum in order to share the feelings of eagerness, enthusiasm and hope with you; I am very sad that I cannot be with you due to my health condition after having an operation two weeks ago, which made me stay at home in order to recover, even I am not physically with you, but I am with you by my soul and heart and I am sure that my assistant Mr. Bashir Atalay will be acting me in expressing my sincere feelings. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani and Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasir for hosting the fourth annual Forum for Alliance of Civilizations.

I was so impressed that Alliance of Civilizations initiative, which I started with my Spanish friend Mr. Zapatero under the umbrella of United Nations before six years, was spread to this much interest and participation. We were able to deliver the initiative of Alliance of Civilizations to American Continent throughout the Rio summit in May this year; and this summit going on in the State of Qatar will reveal to the world that the initiative has spread in the middle east too and we will have more summits in Africa and the far east and get our voice there. I have heard today that a lot of civil society organizations and their representatives have attended this forum. This participation of civil society organizations in addition to the participation of over 130 states and international organization will double our determination and stability in this direction and we feel proud and enthusiastic for what

we see of transforming the Turkish-Spanish initiative into international human movement.

Dear friends, brothers and sisters, the Mediterranean witnessed a huge piracy in the same day of holding the Alliance of Civilizations forum in Rio last May, where the freedom fleet which was transporting human aids to Gaza was attacked by the terrorism of Israel in the international waters and 9 of innocent people who were active in the human work were killed while we were fighting in Rio for achieving peace, security, luxury and justice in the world. Unfortunately, peace, luxury and international law were broken in the Mediterranean.

A high level group was formed with Mr. Zapatero in order to discuss the objectives of this initiative before the launching of Alliance of Civilizations officially, this group has prepared an important report in which it assured the extensive need for Alliance of Civilizations in order to reduce the tension between the West and the Islamic World and with reference to the case of the Middle East which is considered a main escalation for this tension.

Yes, all chronic problems in the Middle East must be solved, not only to prevail peace in our area, but also all over the world. We have to stop blood and tears shedding in the Middle East. As long as the state terrorism continues in the Middle East with hosteling the efforts of conciliation and attacking children and people by bombs and putting innocent people into open prisons, we will not be able to see the light of peace in the horizon and stability and security will never be achieved in the Middle East as long as there are dictatorships left shooting its

citizens and commit mass killing and does not accept any opposing opinion or movement.

At this occasion, I would like to attract your attention to an important subject and how we felt sorry about the decision of United States in regards to joining Palestine to UNESCO lately; we as Turkey and the State of Qatar are very prepared to take the necessary action in this regard and I believe that all approving countries will help the UNESCO in order to continue its work without confronting any economical difficulty. We will never lose hope and Alliance of Civilizations initiative is only a result for us for what we have of hopes for peace, security, justice and stability. And let us not forget the eyes of Baghdad, Damascus, Gaza and Kapul are set towards you, in addition to the hearts of poor African children and Somalis that beats strongly and let us not also forget that Doha has become today a beating heart for earth by hosting the Alliance of Civilizations Forum. I believe that this summit will bring in good results for the whole world. I would like to renew my greetings to His Highness, Emir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani and His wife, Sheikah Moza Bint Nasir and I would like to thank all attendants and participant of this summit and I wish all success with all my heart.