

22 March 2012

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser,
President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly,
on the political instability in Mali**

Statement attributable to the spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser is following with serious concern ongoing developments in Mali, where a group of military officers are reported to have embarked on a rebellion against the democratically-elected government of President Amani Toumani Toure.

The President of the General Assembly strongly condemns any unconstitutional change of government in Mali and denounces all reported acts of violence, lawlessness and looting, especially in the Presidential Palace. He calls for the full respect of the constitutional order in Mali.

Mr. Al-Nasser also calls on the Malian military personnel involved in the reported rebellion to lay down their arms immediately and refrain from any actions that would further destabilize the nation. The President stresses the readiness of the United Nations and the international community to assist the Government and people of Mali for the restoration of stability, security and democracy in the country.