SPEECH AT THE "SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE"

Dear Mr. President, Honorable Heads of Delegations, Colleagues,

First of all, allow me to extend our deepest gratitude to the UN Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres for organizing this pivotal Summit.

This forum is both timely and extremely important. Our world stands at a critical juncture, marked by global instability and uncertainty.

In such a defining moment, we must reflect on the legacy that we will leave for future generations.

To effectively address the challenges before us, we must reform global governance systems and enhance multilateral institutions.

We firmly believe that the United Nations, which has no alternative in the world, must remain the central organization in addressing the global challenges.

Uzbekistan fully supports the "Pact for the Future". We are committed to implementing its principles in collaboration with our partners.

Under the leadership of the **President of Uzbekistan**, we are consistently implementing the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs).

Uzbekistan has made substantial **progress** in reducing poverty, promoting gender equality and advancing climate resilience.

We are determined to double our GDP by 2030 and achieve "upper middle income" status.

Stability and **openness** are the **hallmarks** of modern Central Asia. Today, our region faces significant challenges, affecting our stability and development.

Digital technologies are shaping our future.

We must not allow the digital transition to become a new source of global inequality.

Uzbekistan fully supports the UN Secretary-General's initiative for an annual Digital Cooperation Forum and the establishment of a High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence.

Climate change demands urgent and collective action.

Central Asia has long faced the impacts of global warming, caused by water scarcity, environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity.

The Aral Sea disaster continues to have a significant impact on the ecosystems of all states in the region.

Uzbekistan is undertaking substantial measures to enhance environmental sustainability.

In 2025, we plan to organize a **Climate Forum** in Samarkand and invite everyone to actively participate in this event.

We have made tangible progress in advancing **gender equality**, protecting the rights and interests of women.

Uzbekistan is among the top five countries that have achieved the greatest success in implementing reforms in this field.

Youth is the foundation of our shared future.

Human development is a key focus of our strategy for building a New Uzbekistan. Our country ranks among the top ten states in implementing the UN Youth Strategy 2030. We will continue to prioritize youth development in alignment with the UN Strategy.

The development of **transport corridors** is a crucial step toward accessing **global markets**.

Central Asia is once again becoming a key **transportation hub** between East and West. Together with our partners, we are creating modern transportation routes and implementing projects to **access** global markets.

One of the key projects is the construction of the **Trans-Afghan** railway, which will provide access to international ports and is significant in the region's economic development.

Lastly, **Afghanistan** remains a critical concern.

This country is an integral part of Central Asia. Uzbekistan is engaged in pragmatic efforts to support Afghanistan's recovery and development. We emphasize the UN's crucial role in coordinating international approaches to this issue.

Dear Summit Participants,

The "Summit of the Future" is taking place at a time of profound changes.

Uzbekistan is committed to active multilateral engagement and supporting the central role of the UN in achieving our common goals.

Thank you for your attention!