

[LEFT] Part I on Ambassador Camillo Gonsalves' speech to the United Nations General Debate; [RIGHT] Part II on Ambassador Gonsalves' response to the question on the environment. (The entire statement can also be viewed via RealPlayer by clicking [HERE](#).)

NEW YORK, NY, September 29, 2008 — Ambassador Camillo Gonsalves of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines spoke at the 63rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 29, 2008.

The Ambassador identified a single root cause for many of the issues facing the developing world: the "global imbalances" of the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank.

Gonsalves added that the "invisible hand" of the market is still clasped firmly around the throats of poor people, and that the "iron hand" of the state is still being used to protect the interests of the rich.

Ambassador Gonsalves stated that, in addition to the global imbalances, the "triple burden" of debt, low growth, and natural disasters has led to a "triple crisis" of food, fuel, and finance.

The Ambassador said his country noted the "irony of these paternalistic prescriptions from the same countries that were once developing themselves."

The Vincentian envoy said that in addition to the "unholy trinity of exogenous assaults" on its development, the country is also facing a "triple crisis" of food, fuel, and finance.

The citizens of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines would soon vote on a new constitution to transform the country into a republic.

[Click [HERE](#) to view a copy of Ambassador Gonsalves' Statement in .pdf format]

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