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1. About a more complicated world:

Due to all changes which happened in the world for the last 15-20 years it is obvious that the world has become more complicated. Politically many countries have become democracies. And democracy as all of you know is the most complicated way of choosing a government. On the other hand it is the most civilized way to get rid of a bad government.

Economically new successful economies have emerged, including China, India, Russia, Brazil; private sector has become a driving force of development in many countries. Competition has become a main mechanism for choosing either a government according to the results it delivered or a good based on its quality and price. Competition is a possibility of change, which politically means change of a government, and economically – change of a good.

We often think that change brings or at least should bring better governments and/or better goods. Unfortunately that is not always the case: there are changes which actually are not changes, there are changes that even made things worse, and fortunately there are changes that actually made things better.

In order to make changes really for the betterment of a government an/or a good there should be at least good political, economic, and social structures set up, freedom of press guaranteed, and citizens should be well educated and informed.

Competition and change made things in today's world much more complicated.

It is more difficult in a sense of more challenging to live in a more complicated world; however there is one good thing about more complicated world. It is that there are more chances for a country or an individual to succeed, to change your destiny into better direction.

2. About good governance:

Discussion about which government is the best: big or Small one? is going on for quite some time. Now it should be changed. It is no longer about the size but about results. Good government is first of all the one which is the most efficient in achieving good results. Inefficiency of government costs too much. Too much government interference is as bad as its too little interference. Too much government interference in the former Soviet Union, and its too little interference in some of the pure market economy countries cost too much. Both types of government try to solve problems after it becomes too expensive to do so.

Efficiency means that good government should have enough skills to prevent any problem before it turns into disaster.

3. About geographic and time differences of countries:

We all live in 21st century. But when did it start? Some say in 1980s, some – on 9/11, 2001, some – this year from financial crisis. It might even start in 1789 with French revolution, because the ideals of the revolution are the ideals of the 21st century, and we can hope that they will be implemented to their full potential. According to Islamic calendar 2008 is 1429, to Buddhist calendar – 2551, to Hebrew calendar – 5768.

Geographically we live in different time zones, culturally or according to our religions - in different time ages. However in terms of development and good governance we have to live in one time zone, at the same age, that is in the 21st century.



In the 21st century the world should not be divided into developed and developing countries, into dictatorships and democracies, into north and south. To make it happen there should equal responsibility of the governments of both developed and developing countries.

Good governance means responsible and accountable government.

Millennium development goals adopted by the UN is a real attempt to make countries live at the same age in terms of development and good governance. In this sense it could be interesting to try to define the political and socio-economic criteria of the 21st century and based on these criteria build up better world.

4. About small countries:

Mongolia is one of those so called small countries. It has got long and rich history. A nation which tries to become a 21st century country. And we believe that we can succeed in 21st century. We think that changing ourselves not others is the most difficult, but the best and shortest way to succeed.

Small countries cannot afford of having 'costly' governments, although in many cases they do have them. Small countries cannot afford of having problems with other countries, including their immediate neighbors. However in today's globalized world with its complicated communications network, active political, economic, social, cultural interactions, trade relations so called other countries could also be considered as neighbors.

For Mongolia Russia and China are the immediate neighbors and we do enjoy good and close cooperation with both of them. Japan is the biggest donor country; the US is the main supporter of our transition towards democracy and market economy; Korea – the biggest labor market; India – a spiritual neighbor; Europe – another big supporter of our transformation, supplier of educational facilities.

Small countries have better chances for development in the more complicated world. In more simple world only few were used to make decisions as it was the case during the Cold war period, and others were supposed to follow. The interests of small countries are quite often overlooked by the world community. Small countries are the ones where it is easy to start changes, and difficult to stop them if they are democracies. In small countries 'strong' leaders often replace institutions.

Strong rule of law is better than strong leaders in all countries irrespective of their sizes. It is especially true in small countries.

5. Conclusion:

- Today's world is a more complicated world
- There are chances of success for any country once they start changing themselves
- Good government is an efficient one
- Main criterion of a good government is that it has the capacity to prevent crisis
- It might be necessary to work out political and socio-economic criteria of the 21st century
- Small and big countries irrespective of their size should hold on to the rule of law to succeed.