



**CHAIR OF
THE COORDINATING BUREAU
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY H.E. MR. JORGE ARREAZA
MONTSERRAT, MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE'S POWER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, ON
BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), DURING THE
46th SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)**

Abu Dhabi, 01-02 March 2019

**H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates,
H.E. Dr. Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, Secretary-General of the OIC,
Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegation,
Distinguished Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. It is a great honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to address this 46th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), on behalf of the 120 Member States comprising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
2. At the outset, allow me to thank the honorable Government of the United Arab Emirates and the Secretariat of the OIC for their kind invitation to participate in this historic Conference that coincides with the celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of the OIC, and to express our gratitude and appreciation to the people of Abu Dhabi for their generosity and kind hospitality.

Mr. President,

3. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) have a history of close partnership and cooperation, sharing most of its Member States in both forums. Most worthy of noting is the fact that both the NAM and the OIC are united by a common purpose and by the sharing of the same principles, understanding that the preservation and promotion of an inclusive multilateralism is the most effective tool for addressing the global and emerging challenges that we currently face.
4. We currently live in a world that faces multiple, complex and newly emerging threats and challenges to international peace and security, which we believe must indeed be addressed, precisely, through multilateralism, within the framework of international law and relevant resolutions of the United Nations.



CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



5. We are soon to commemorate the 75 Anniversary of the United Nations and the 65 Anniversary of the Afro-Asian Conference of 1955, in which the Bandung Principles were proclaimed. Let us be clear: the principles that serve as the foundation for both the UN and NAM are today as relevant and valid as they were when we endorse them. Their respect and preservation, along with the defense and commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in the UN Charter and the norms of international law, is the most effective shield for us, developing countries, to protect ourselves from those threats and challenges that we face today, including, among others, acts of aggressions from imperial powers. In this context, next 24 April 2019 we have a historic opportunity to renew our commitment to establish a peaceful and prosperous world, during the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations to commemorate, for the first time ever, the “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace”, an initiative that was promoted by our Movement, and which was timely endorsed by the OIC.

Mr. President,

6. There are many things that unite our two forums. Among those, we could highlight the following principled positions: the promotion of the peaceful settlement of disputes, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rejection of the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, the rejection of the imposition of unilateral coercive measures, the determination to reach the sustainable development of our peoples, and the condemnation of all acts of terrorism. In relation to the latter, it is worth stressing that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, and that these attributions should not be used to justify terrorism or counter-terrorism measures that include, *inter alia*, profiling of terror suspects and intrusion on individual privacy.
7. Perhaps, the best example of NAM’s commitment to both the OIC and the peaceful settlement of disputes is their shared principled position in relation to the Question of Palestine, which certainly remains a priority on the Movement’s agenda. In that regard, we stress hereby the urgency of the achievement of a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, while condemning the illegal policies and practices of the Occupying Power. In this regard, while reiterating our grave concern about the lack of accountability for all the violations committed by Israel, we reiterate that it is imperative that action be taken immediately, in line with international law and UN resolutions, to redress the situation on the ground, de-escalate tensions, and foster an appropriate environment for the pursuit of peace, including by averting unilateral, provocative or arbitrary measures that only serve to embolden Israel to further pursue its illegal policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.



CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT



Mr. President,

8. The Movement's calls for social justice, peace and development are reflected in the theme of this important Ministerial Conference: "50 Years of Islamic Cooperation: Roadmap for Prosperity and Development". In this regard we reaffirm our determination to strengthen international cooperation based on solidarity, which is one of the core principles of our Movement, regardless of the differences existing in the political, economic and social systems of States, on the basis of mutual respect and the equality of rights, while stressing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a plan of action for our peoples, planet and prosperity, where no one is left behind, which also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom, and which recognizes that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.
9. In this context, we seize this opportunity to renew the commitment made by the Ministers of our Movement during the XVIII NAM Mid-Term Ministerial Conference, held in April 2018, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, to initiate further vigorous transparent and inclusive initiatives to achieve the realization of multilateral cooperation in the areas of economic development and social progress, peace and security, and human rights for all and the rule of law, including through enhancing the Movement's unity, solidarity and cohesiveness on issues of collective concern and interests, with the aim of shaping the multilateral agenda to embrace development as a fundamental priority, which should take into account the need for developing and developed countries and international institutions to intensify partnerships and coordinate their efforts and resources to effectively address all imbalances in the global agenda.
10. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement wishes every success to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), including during this 46th Council of Foreign Ministers, and looks forward to further strengthen its partnership, in their mutual strive for peace, prosperity and harmony for all, and for a world more just and equitable.

I thank you, Mr. President.