



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



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE  
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-  
ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), DURING THE OPEN DEBATE OF THE  
SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON “THE ROLE OF  
STATES, REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS  
IN THE PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS”**

*New York, 06 December 2018*

**Mr. President,**

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor on behalf of the 120 Member States comprising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
2. At the outset, we would like to convey, on behalf of the Member States of the Movement, our respects to H.E. Mr. Marcel Amon-Tanoh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire, and to express our appreciation to his delegation, a fellow non-aligned country, for having convened this Open Debate, as well as for the Concept Note that was kindly drafted to guide our discussions today.
3. Similarly, we would like to express our appreciation for the much valuable briefings of H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

**Mr. President,**

4. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reiterates its full commitment to the promotion of the peaceful settlement of disputes, in accordance with Article 2 and Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as with relevant UN resolutions and international law as a whole, convinced that this will strengthen international peace and security, contributing in our collective efforts to save future generations from the scourge of war and armed conflict, including through strengthening the role of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes and the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the UN Charter.
5. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement also reiterate today their full commitment with the promotion, preservation and strengthening of multilateralism and reaffirm hereby that the United Nations, its Charter, and the norms of international law remain



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indispensable tools and central in the preservation and maintenance of international peace and security and the strengthening of international cooperation.

6. Furthermore, in line with the principled positions agreed during the XVIII NAM Mid-Term Ministerial Conference, held in April 2018, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, we reiterate that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations and that the role of regional arrangements, in that regard, should be in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, and should not in any way substitute the role of the Organization, or circumvent the full application of the guiding principles of UN Peacekeeping Operations, **which remain valid**, while stressing that implementation of all mandated tasks should be supported by a comprehensive peace process, provision of adequate resources, based on national ownership and the support of the international community, as well as on the consent and adherence of the parties concerned.

**Mr. President,**

7. ~~As stated in the Concept Note for today's Open Debate, "many contemporary conflicts are internal crises", and this is, in our view, because the nature of conflicts has changed over the years. As a result, the~~ The role of regional and sub-regional organizations has become more **and more** important and should ~~be further strengthened~~ **receive the required support from the United Nations**, taking into consideration that these organizations have a better understanding of the realities, dynamics, and backgrounds of such conflicts, including the situation overall on the ground, having therefore a comparative advantage to both address and prevent them, and to effectively support political processes aimed at reaching the peaceful settlement of such disputes. In many cases, as is the case of the African Union, for example, they even have a well-known trajectory in the region, as well as a respected political authority.
8. Therefore, the Member States of the Movement seize this opportunity to underscore the important role that regional and sub-regional arrangements and agencies, including those composed of Non-Aligned and other developing countries can play in the promotion of regional peace and security as well as economic and social development through cooperation among countries in the region.
9. On the other hand, we underline the need for the Peacebuilding Commission to establish dynamic partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations and to ensure that regional efforts receive the required attention and support. We also express the need for integrated peacebuilding strategies and programmes that are consistent and in line with host-country strategies in order to ensure national ownership.



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10. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) renews its call for the intensification of the process of consultations, cooperation, and coordination between the United Nations and regional and sub-regional organizations, arrangements, or agencies, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, as well as on their mandate, scope and composition, which is useful and can contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

I thank you, Mr. President.