



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
UNESCO CHAPTER**



**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY H.E. MR. HECTOR CONSTANT,
AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT DELEGATE OF THE BOLIVARIAN
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO UNESCO, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-
ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) DURING THE 204TH SESSION OF THE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF UNESCO**

Paris, 10 April 2018

**Madame Director-General,
Chair of the Executive Board,
Distinguished Delegates,**

1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is pleased to take the floor in its capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement before this honorable Board, of which 37 countries are part of, following the recent reactivation of the UNESCO Chapter, this past December 2017. In addition, it takes the opportunity to welcome the outcome documents of the NAM Ministerial meeting held last week in Baku, Azerbaijan.
2. Given the serious challenges that the international system faces today, NAM advocates the strengthening of the principles of International Law in favor of multilateralism in adherence to respect for the sovereignty, territorial unity and integrity of States, non-interference in internal affairs and the right to self-determination of peoples. The NAM reiterates once more its concern in regards to the lack of implementation of the decisions relating to Occupied Palestine.
3. The Member States of NAM, UNESCO chapter, reaffirm their commitment to the promotion and protection of Human Rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as cultural diversity recognizing them as sources of enrichment for the cultural life of humanity and a medium of creativity, social justice and tolerance as a way to prevent extremism and not as a justification for a new ideological confrontation between peoples.
4. The NAM Member States recalling the intergovernmental nature of this Organization welcome the results of the Governance group through resolution 39 C/87 and take note of the ongoing reform process, in order to ensure greater efficiency, transparency and inclusiveness in the interest of promoting a more strategic debate on the challenges presented by the different existing Bodies, Programs and Conventions of the Organization.



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5. Likewise, the Member States of NAM reaffirm their determination to contribute from the Executive Board and from all other areas of the Organization with the objectives of UNESCO, focusing on the achievement of peace and international solidarity.

Mister Chairman,

6. Finally, the Member States of the NAM, convey their warm greetings to the Director General of UNESCO, Mrs. Audrey Azoulay and express their willingness to support her mission, in line with the overall endeavors to achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda. We also welcome the appointment of the Ambassador of Morocco as chair of the General Conference, as well as the election of the Ambassador of Côte d'Ivoire and the Deputy Delegate of the Philippines to direct the Preparatory Group. We are certain that the presence of these countries of the NAM will be of great aid to the work of this Board under the good guidance of the H.E. the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea.

Thank you very much.