



**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), OPEN DEBATE OF THE SECURITY  
COUNCIL ON “UNITED NATIONS PEACEOPERATIONS: WOMEN IN  
PEACEKEEPING”**

*New York, 11 April 2019*

**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. Firstly, allow us to express our respects to H.E. Dr. Ursula von der Leyen, German Federal Minister of Defence, as well as our appreciation to her delegation for the Concept Note that was kindly drafted to guide our discussions today and to the briefers for their much valuable presentations earlier today.

**Mr. President,**

3. All that has to do with the improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of UN Peacekeeping Operations is a matter to which the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) attaches particular importance, taking into account the fact that 88% of peacekeeping personnel deployed in the field come from Non-Aligned countries. Hence, we stress at the very outset the need for effective triangular consultations, or rather a renewed and revitalized partnership of shared responsibility between the Security Council, the troop and police contributing countries and the Secretariat, with a view to making objective assessments and leveraging the potentials of peacekeeping mandates and operations. This could result, among others, in the drafting of clear and achievable mandates that are up to the challenges on the ground, but only if this cooperation is continuous, substantive, representative and meaningful, including well ahead of mandate renewals.
4. Similarly, the Member States of the Movement seize this opportunity to note that during their XVIII Mid-Term Ministerial Conference, held in April 2018, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministers reaffirmed their principled position on peacekeeping operations, which must be carried out with strict adherence to the principles and purposes enshrined in the UN Charter, and emphasized that respect of the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of States, as well as non-intervention in the internal affairs of any State, are key elements of the joint efforts in the promotion



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of international peace and security. In this regard, they reiterated that the respect to the basic principles of peacekeeping; namely, consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except in self-defence and defence of the mandate, is essential for the success of peacekeeping operations, in particular those with Protection of Civilians mandates.

5. Moreover, while agreeing that UN Peacekeeping Operations have played a crucial role in achieving security and sustaining peace, we stress that, in the context of the comprehensive approach and the objective of a lasting peace and security, the implementation of all mandated tasks to peacekeeping operations should be supported and accompanied by a parallel, comprehensive and inclusive political process towards sustaining peace, that is well planned and carefully designed, and based on national ownership and the support of the international community, as well as the consent and adherence of the parties concerned. In other words, Peacekeeping Operations should neither be used as an alternative to addressing root causes of conflicts, nor for managing the conflicts themselves.

### **Mr. President,**

6. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has welcomed the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative and supported its Declaration of Shared Commitments, which is aimed at ensuring collective effort to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of United Nations Peacekeeping in order to address the changing realities. Furthermore, the Movement is keen to translate this Declaration of Shared Commitments into a practical, integrated, and mutually reinforcing implementation framework. In this regard, we would like to refer to ~~our~~ **Egypt's** efforts towards that end, including through the introduction of the Cairo Road Map, which seeks to ensure a joint, integrated and balanced implementation framework for those commitments. Similarly, we seize this opportunity to reiterate our support for the Secretary General's Zero tolerance policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, including to the voluntary Compact and the Circle of Leaders initiatives.
7. As we approach the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, the Member States of the Movement express today their commitment to increase the number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations at all levels, including in key positions, as well as to ensure full, equal and meaningful participation of women in all stages of peace processes, conscious that the presence of female military, police and civilian personnel on the ground could send an important signal regarding gender equality and women empowerment to host communities, which in turn could assist in the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.



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8. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seizes this opportunity to pay tribute and recognize the commendable work carried out by all peacekeepers; men and women who operate, in many cases, in adverse conditions on the ground, in the context of armed conflicts, risking their lives on a daily basis. Our sincere recognition goes to all of them, including to those who have lost their lives in field operations, defending the flag of the UN and defending the cause of peace.

I thank you, Mr. President.