



**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 PRESENTATION OF
DRAFT RESOLUTION A/73/L.48, ENTITLED “INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF MULTILATERALISM AND DIPLOMACY FOR PEACE”, UNDER
AGENDA ITEM 15 REFERRED TO “CULTURE OF PEACE”**

New York, 12 December 2018

Madam 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) to present draft resolution A/73/L.48 entitled “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace”.
2. Throughout this 73rd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations many delegations have referred in their statements to the need to uphold multilateralism. This was the case not only during the General Debate, back in September, but also in the various Committees of the General Assembly and, most recently, during the High-Level Dialogue on “Renewing the Commitment to Multilateralism”, held on 31 October 2018, and during the Open Debate of the Security Council on “Strengthening Multilateralism and the Role of the United Nations”, held on 09 November 2018.
3. For its part, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), has always been of the view that there is a pressing need to promote, defend and strengthen multilateralism, especially in the current international juncture and the crossroad at which multilateralism seems to be. Similarly, we have echoed the reiterated calls of the Secretary-General for the United Nations “to be an instrument for a surge in diplomacy for peace”, which would ultimately serve the purpose of making our Organization relevant to all people.
4. It is for these reasons, that on 26 September 2018, having met on the sidelines of the High-Level Segment of the 73rd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and having held frank discussions on the need to uphold the UN Charter and the Purposes and Principles of NAM, the Ministers of our Movement unanimously adopted a Political Declaration in which they decided to initiate consultations to establish this important international day.

Madam President,



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5. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seizes this opportunity to thank all the distinguished delegations who actively participated and engaged with a constructive spirit in the negotiation process of this draft resolution that we present today. The consensual text before you is the result of informal consultations amongst the Member States of the United Nations, carried out in an inclusive and transparent manner, and following a process of mutual accommodation that took into account the positions, concerns and aspirations of all.
6. Our sincere appreciation also goes to all delegations who have decided to co-sponsor this draft resolution, which we have insisted that is not only important but also very timely. Similarly, the Member States of the Movement would like to express their sincere recognition to the African Group, the Arab Group, the Asia-Pacific Group, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and other friendly delegations, who since the very beginning have expressed their support to this initiative.

Madam President,

7. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has decided to present this draft resolution under agenda item 15, entitled “Culture of Peace”, true to its commitment to enhance its role as an anti-war and peace-loving force, and as a reaffirmation of its principled position of promoting a culture of peace through various activities, including in international and regional conferences and fora, convinced that this will ultimately contribute towards our joint efforts in favor of peace, security, stability, sustainable development and the promotion of human rights.
8. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement have put forward this initiative confident that the approach of multilateralism and diplomacy could reinforce the advancement of the three pillars of the United Nations, and that this international day which we have advocated to establish constitutes a means to promote the values of the United Nations and to reaffirm the faith of our peoples in the purposes and principles enshrined in its Charter, to reaffirm the importance and relevance of multilateralism and international law, and to advance the common goal of lasting and sustained peace through diplomacy.
9. Furthermore, we also take this opportunity to express our commitment to, once established, commemorate and promote every 24 April, a day of particular historic significance to our Movement, as the “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace”, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities. We also look forward and convey our full support to the Office of the President



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of the General Assembly in the preparations of the High-Level Meeting to be convened on 24 April 2019, with the participation of the Secretary-General, to observe for the first time this international day, while respectfully urging Member States to participate at the highest possible level at that time.

10. To conclude, I would like to express the wish of the 120 Member States comprising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and all the co-sponsors of the text that draft resolution A/73/L.48 be adopted by consensus, taking into account the importance that the Member States of the United Nations attach to multilateralism and diplomacy for peace and the unified message that will be sent to the world in this regard.

I thank you, Madam President.