



**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), ON THE REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF
THE WORKING GROUP AND THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE
RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
THIRD COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED
NATIONS**

New York, 17 October 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 that comprise the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), especially on a subject to which we have historically attached particular importance, bearing in mind the fact that the Declaration on the Right to Development was promoted by our Movement.
2. At the outset, we would like to express our appreciation for the briefings of H.E. Ambassador Zamir Akram, Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, and of Mr. Saad Alfarargi, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development.
3. In this regard, we seize this opportunity to commend Ambassador Akram for his able stewardship in guiding the deliberations of the nineteenth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development and express our appreciation for the presentation of a set of standards for the implementation of the right to development, which is a useful basis for further deliberations on the implementation and realization of this human right and which takes into account our contributions aimed at finalizing the criteria and sub-criteria of the right to development.

Mr. President,

4. Over three decades have passed since the adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which is, as agreed in 1986, an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural, and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized. It was recognized at that time that the human person is the central subject of development, and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development. Yet, for ensuring its full enjoyment and



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realization, profound changes in the international economic structure, including the creation of economic and social conditions that are favorable to developing countries, are still needed.

5. Moreover, the right to development implies also the full realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, which includes, subject to the relevant provisions of both International Covenants on Human Rights, the exercise of their inalienable right to full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources.
6. Furthermore, the Declaration on the Right to Development recognizes that States have both the right and the duty to formulate appropriate national development policies that aim at the constant improvement of the wellbeing of the entire population and of all individuals, on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution in the benefits resulting therefrom.

Mr. President,

7. During the XVIII Mid-Term Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held in April 2018, in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministers reaffirmed that all human rights, including the right to development, are universal, inalienable, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that human rights issues must be addressed within the global context through a constructive, non-confrontational, non-politicized and non-selective dialogue-based approach, in a fair and equal manner, with objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency as the guiding principles, taking into account the political, historical, social, religious and cultural particularities of each country.
8. In addition, at that time the Ministers renewed their commitment to promote and protect all universally recognized human rights, in particular the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and as an integral part of all universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms. They also reaffirmed the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone as set out in the UN Millennium Declaration, in the UN Declaration on the Right to Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while giving due consideration to the negative impact of unilateral economic and financial coercive measures on the realization of the right to development.

Mr. President,

9. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) pledges its support to the Chair of the Working



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Group on the Right to Development and to the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development in the fulfillment of their respective mandates, and encourages them both to carry on with their efforts towards positioning the right to development at the center of the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda.

10. In this regard, we urge Member States, relevant bodies of the United Nations System, United Nations Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes, in particular Human Rights Mechanisms, as well as the international financial and trade institutions to mainstream the right to development in the context of the elaboration of their policies, in line with the 2030 Development Agenda, and to strive for its greater acceptance, operationalization and realization at the international and national levels.
11. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement seize this opportunity to renew their proposal on the convening of a United Nations-sponsored High-Level International Conference on the Right to Development, while reiterating our call for the elaboration of a Convention on the Right to Development.
12. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reiterates its unequivocal commitment to device appropriate means along with our full political will to implement the Declaration on the Right to Development and achieve our common goals for a better future for all, leaving “no one behind”, as conceived in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

I thank you, Mr. President.