



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



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY H.E. MR. JORGE ARREAZA
MONTSERRAT, MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE'S POWER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, ON
BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) DURING THE
HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON
PEACEBUILDING AND SUSTAINING PEACE**

New York, 24 April 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).
2. At the outset, allow us to express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for convening this High-Level Meeting on a matter of great importance to our Movement, which is at all times working to enhance its role as an anti-war and peace-loving force. Similarly, we would like to thank those who preceded us for their much valuable remarks.
3. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement seize this opportunity to commend the transparency and inclusiveness with which the Permanent Representatives of Bangladesh and Lithuania, as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental negotiations of draft resolution A/72/L.49, carried the negotiation process of said text, in which the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) actively participated, with a constructive spirit, under the able leadership of the Kenyan Delegation, and stressed the importance of ensuring that Member States have an explicit role in the implementation of the agreed procedures that pertain to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, in order to ensure efficiency and informed reporting of the progress both at Headquarters and at the country-level.

Mr. President,

4. We currently live in a world that faces multiple, complex and newly emerging threats and challenges to international peace and security, which we believe must be resolutely addressed through multilateralism, within the framework of international law.
5. Among the core objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is the adoption of effective measures for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of peace to defend, promote and encourage the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered. Consequently, we believe that preserving, promoting, achieving and



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maintaining international peace and security should remain a key priority in the agenda of the United Nations, which is why the international community must not spare efforts in the fields of conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

6. Preventing the outbreak, continuation or recurrence of conflict is therefore a collective responsibility. But, most important, it is a national responsibility, which could at times benefit from the objective, impartial and supportive assistance that the United Nations could provide, upon request, and in partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations and other relevant actors, as appropriate.
7. Moreover, while recognizing that there are various tools available to the international community and the United Nations for ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security, including preventive diplomacy, the Non-Aligned Movement stresses the importance of using such tools in good faith, and not as a tool for interfering in the internal affairs of Member States, while strictly abiding by the principles of international law concerning friendly relations and cooperation among States, in accordance with the UN Charter.
8. Likewise, we emphasize the need for the inclusion and involvement of all segments of society in peace processes, including women and youth, who can play an important role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, as well as in peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts and in building peaceful and resilient societies. Inclusivity is key to advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives in order to ensure that the needs of all segments of society are taken into account.

Mr. President,

9. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reaffirms its 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, in order to contribute to strengthening international peace and security and 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, conflict prevention and resolution, confidence building, national reconciliation, and post-conflict peace building, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development.
10. In this regard, let us note that during the XVIII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held just a couple of days ago in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministers stressed that the root causes of conflicts should be addressed in a coherent, well-planned, coordinated and comprehensive manner, with other political, social, economic and developmental instruments. They further stressed that due



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consideration should be given by the United Nations (UN) to the manner in which those efforts can be carried out from the early stage of UN engagement in post-conflict situations and continue without interruption after the departure of UN peacekeeping operations, so as to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security, as well as sustainable development. In this context, they stressed the need to improve synergies between the activities of peacekeeping and peacebuilding to attain the overall objective of sustaining peace.

11. Our position is of great relevance taking into account that, in most cases, among the structural causes of conflicts, we can find, among others, poverty, hunger, inequalities – including those related to gender – violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, injustice, lack of jobs and access to education, poor accountability, and mismanagement of natural resources, all of which are core elements of a comprehensive goal and process of sustaining peace.

Mr. President,

12. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has taken note of the Secretary General's focus on enhancing meaningful interface between the United Nations' political engagements and peace operations on the ground. The need for breaking down silos within the Organization needs not to be overemphasized, including in order for peacekeeping and peacebuilding mandates and operations to be well calibrated with the broader political and development objectives necessary for sustaining peace.
13. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement have also taken note of the Secretary General's efforts to bring together his reform proposals on peace and security, development and internal management into a cohesive narrative. We have also taken note of his concrete proposals concerning the UN's peacebuilding architecture, including for the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) to serve as a fulcrum for promoting system-wide coherence on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, as well as of his proposals for enhanced, predictable and sustainable resources to match the UN's effective focus and work on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. We look forward to sustain the momentum created and engage in further in-depth discussions to consider all these proposals and recommendations, including their follow-up and implementation, in preparation for the 2020 Peacebuilding Architecture Review.
14. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) underscores the fact that there cannot be development without peace, and no peace without development. Therefore, we should join together and double our efforts and improve synergies between the activities of peacekeeping and peacebuilding, as appropriate, to attain the overall objective of sustaining peace, which will be key in fulfilling the commitments made when our Heads



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of State or Government adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which seeks, among others, to strengthen universal peace.

I thank you.