



**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 CONSIDERATION OF
AGENDA ITEM 76, ENTITLED “REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COURT OF JUSTICE”**

New York, 25 October 2018

Madam President,

1. It is an honor to take the floor on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in occasion of the consideration of an agenda item to which we attach great importance; such as, the Report of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), contained in document A/73/4, of which we take note.
2. At the outset, allow us to thank the President of the ICJ for his presentation of the report to the General Assembly on the activities of the Court between 01 August 2017 and 31 July 2018, as requested by this body last year.

Madam President,

3. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reaffirms and underscores its principled positions concerning the peaceful settlement of disputes, and the non-use or threat of use of force. The ICJ has a significant role in promoting and encouraging the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations, and in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered.
4. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement have agreed to advance their endeavors aimed at generating further progress to achieve full respect for international law and, in this regard, commend the role of ICJ in promoting the peaceful settlement of international disputes, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UN Charter and the Statute of the Court, in particular, Articles 33 and 94 of the Charter.
5. In relation to advisory opinions of the Court, noting the fact that the Security Council has not sought any advisory opinion from the Court since 1970, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) urges the Security Council to make greater use of the ICJ, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, as a source of advisory opinions and interpretation of relevant norms of international law, particularly on controversial issues. It further



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requests the Security Council to use the Court as a source of interpreting relevant international law, and also urges that body to consider its decisions being reviewed by the Court, bearing in mind the need to ensure their adherence to the UN Charter, and international law.

Madam President,

6. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seizes this opportunity to also invite the General Assembly, other organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies duly authorized, to request advisory opinions of the ICJ on legal questions arising within the scope of their activities.
7. Moreover, the Member States of the Movement reaffirm the importance of the unanimous ICJ advisory opinion issued on 8 July 1996 on the “Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons”. On this, the ICJ concluded that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion, negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all aspects under strict and effective international control.
8. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) continues to call on Israel, the occupying Power, to fully respect the 9 July 2004 ICJ advisory opinion entitled "Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory", and calls upon all States to respect and ensure respect of the provisions therein for the realization of the end of the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the independence of the State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital.

I thank you, Madam President.