



Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (CoB-NAM)

Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

18 - 21 July 2019

CARACAS POLITICAL DECLARATION

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), gathered from 20-21 July 2019 in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, within the framework of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement, to undertake a review of the international situation, the progress achieved in the implementation of the outcomes of the XVIII NAM Mid-Term Ministerial Conference, held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on April 2018, and to hold frank discussions, particularly, on the urgent need to Uphold International Law for the Promotion and Consolidation of Peace, and decided, in line with our determination to enhance the Movement's status and role as an anti-war peace-loving force:

1. To reaffirm and underscore the Movement's abiding faith in and strong commitment to the Bandung Principles, as well as to its ideals and purposes, particularly in establishing a peaceful and prosperous world and a just and equitable world order.
2. To further reaffirm the continued relevance and their adherence to all principled positions and decisions adopted by the Movement.
3. To further reaffirm the provisions of the Declaration of Havana on the Purposes and Principles and the Role of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in the Current International Juncture (2006), as well as the Declaration of Island of Margarita (2016) and the Declaration of Baku (2018).
4. To renew their unwavering commitment to the United Nations, its founding Charter and international law, which all remain indispensable tools and central in the maintenance of international peace and security and in the strengthening of international cooperation.
5. To underline that the strict observance of the principles of international law and the fulfillment in good faith of the obligations assumed by States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, is of utmost importance for the maintenance of international peace and security; to reaffirm that NAM Member States shall respect the territorial integrity, sovereignty, political independence and inviolability of international borders of Member States; and to recommit to support and promote these principles of international law.

6. To uphold the principles of sovereignty and sovereign equality of States, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State or Nation; to take 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; to refrain in international relations from the threat or use of force, including aggressive military exercises against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter; to develop friendly relations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in their struggle against foreign occupation; to achieve international cooperation based on solidarity among peoples and governments in solving international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character; and to promote and encourage, in accordance with international commitments and domestic law, the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.
7. To reaffirm and stress their principled positions concerning peaceful settlement of disputes, in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, and on the non-use or threat of use of force, including through the promotion of political understanding and constructive dialogue among States, on the basis of mutual respect.
8. To reiterate their opposition to unilateralism and unilaterally imposed measures by certain States, which can lead to the erosion and violation of the UN Charter, international law and human rights, as well as to the use and threat of use of force, pressure and coercive measures, as a means to achieving their national policy objectives, mindful of the negative impact of such measures on the rule of law at the international level, as well as on international relations.
 - a. To refrain from recognizing, adopting or implementing extra-territorial or unilateral coercive measures or laws, including unilateral economic sanctions, other intimidating measures, and arbitrary travel restrictions, that seek to exert pressure on Non-Aligned Countries — threatening their sovereignty and independence, and their freedom of trade and investment — and prevent them from exercising their right to decide, by their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, where such measures or laws constitute flagrant violations of the UN Charter, international law, the multilateral trading system as well as the norms and principles governing friendly relations among States.
 - b. To persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them and urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other UN organs; request States applying these measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately.
 - c. To renew their support, in accordance with international law, to the claim of affected States, including the targeted States, to compensation for the damage incurred as a consequence of acts of

aggression or the implementation of extraterritorial or unilateral coercive measures, which are undertaken in violation of international law.

- d. To firmly oppose the unilateral evaluation and certification of the conduct of States as a means of exerting pressure on Non-Aligned Countries and other countries, in particular developing countries.
9. To continue to maintain, strengthen, and manifest the unity and solidarity among the membership of the Movement, particularly with those Non-Aligned Countries whose peoples are experiencing violations of international law, including, among others, external threats of use of force, acts of aggression or unilateral coercive measures, through the provision of political, moral, material and other forms of assistance.
 10. To underline the obligation of all States to ensure the security and safety of the members and premises of diplomatic and consular missions, as well as their inviolability, in accordance with international law, the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, as well as relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, including with a view to avoid the forceful and illegal seizure of such premises; and to stress that respect to corresponding privileges and immunities of diplomatic personnel, premises and property is interlinked to the fulfillment of their official purposes, especially at the multilateral level, irrespective of the relations between States and Host Countries.
 11. To encourage those in a position to do so to make greater use of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) as a source of interpretation of relevant norms of international law and to consider conducting consultations among the Member States of the Movement, as and when appropriate, with a view to requesting Advisory Opinions to the ICJ, including on cases in which unilateral coercive measures, which are taken in violation of international law, may undermine international peace and security.
 12. To reaffirm its principled position and firm commitment in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and, in this connection, to reiterate the obligation of all Member States to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts, refrain from providing any form of support, active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including by suppressing recruitment of members of terrorist groups and eliminating the supply of weapons to terrorists, deny terrorists safe haven, freedom of operations, movement and recruitment, and also to prevent refugee status from being abused by the perpetrators, organizers or facilitators of terrorist acts, and also calls upon Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure, before granting asylum, that the asylum seeker has not planned, facilitated or participated in the commission of terrorist acts, and further call upon all Member States to strengthen cooperation to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters.

Caracas, 21 July 2019