

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace

**Talking points
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Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as the Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement for initiating this event to celebrate the adoption of the resolution A/RES/73/127 on the International day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace adopted by the UN General Assembly on 12 December 2018.

The commemoration of the International Day should promote achieving the purposes of the UN Charter and bring insights in the ways and means for the effective and valuable contribution of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace in the advancement of the three pillars of the United Nations, namely, peace and security, human rights, and sustainable development.

It is important to stress today that multilateralism and diplomacy for peace are the only answers to the current crises occurring in different parts of the world as a result of various causes and to note the importance of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace in achieving sustainable peace, development and prosperity for all States.

The international law is under massive attacks today, there are growing challenges to international peace and security. The new world order is in the making accompanied with numerous changes in the paradigms of international behaviour.

Today the world community witnesses a dangerous mix of traditional threats and so-called “new emerging” challenges to peace, security and sustainable

development. Armed conflicts, aggressive expansionist policies, environmental degradation, large-scale human rights abuses, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, financial crises, international and state sponsored terrorism, armed separatism, transnational organized crime, violent extremism continue to affect millions of people around the world and undermine the basis of the world order.

In this regard the international community has to emphasize the need for strengthening of the international legal order to prevent and resolve the on-going conflicts by strict compliance with generally accepted norms and principles of international law guiding inter-State relations, in particular those relating to respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of the UN Member States and inviolability of their internationally recognized borders.

All these bring about new tasks in the joint endeavours of the NAM Member States to further develop their nations and re-emphasize the importance of building a greater solidarity, dialogue and cooperation within the Non-Aligned Movement. Some of the most important achievements of the XXth century such as the success of the decolonization movement and the emergence of a global social development agenda are among the Movement's impressive contributions to the world so far. Being the second largest political international organization after the UN, the Non-Aligned Movement provides a broad, vibrant and inclusive forum for wide-ranging political consultations and practical cooperation. In doing so, it has enabled Member States to make consistent efforts towards a peaceful and secure international order. In that respect, Azerbaijan is deeply grateful to the NAM Member States for their solid support to sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of Azerbaijan.

Yet, there is still a long way to go to attain the goals of the Movement. Cooperation among the NAM Member States in elaborating common positions and advancing them through the relevant international organizations here in Geneva needs to be more goal-oriented and focused on achievable and practical results. Many NAM Member States are the members of various political alliances and unions, and the

commitments undertaken due to the affiliation with such groupings should be accomplished without prejudice to the principles of the Movement.

My country, Azerbaijan, firmly believes in the essence of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace. In the framework of the forthcoming biannual World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue to be held on 2-3 May in Baku, the UN University for Peace and the Government of Azerbaijan will organize a conference on “Strengthening the multilateralism and diplomacy for peace within the United Nations system” which will be held to draw the attention to the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace in achieving international peace, security and development.

As you know, Azerbaijan will assume the Chairmanship of the NAM after the XVIIIth Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement to be held on 25-26 October 2019 in Baku. Azerbaijan is honoured and privileged to take up the next Chairmanship and will spare no efforts to further enhance the role of the Movement in achieving the ideals of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace by upholding the UN Charter and the Bandung Principles as the new Chair of the Movement. The principles and purposes of the NAM are among fundamental guidelines for the international relations in the XXIst century. Azerbaijan stands firmly within the Non-Aligned Movement for a world of enduring peace, security, justice and prosperity.

Thank you.