



**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 ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

New York, 17 October 2017

Mr. President,

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
2. At the outset, and this being the first time we address the Third Committee during this 72 Session of the UN General Assembly, allow us to congratulate you on your assumption as Chair, as well as the other members of the Bureau of the Committee. Rest assured of our cooperation and support throughout your tenure.
3. Likewise, we would like to express our appreciation for the briefing of H.E. Ambassador Zamir Akram, Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development.
4. We commend him for his able stewardship in guiding the deliberations of the eighteenth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development and for his dedication and commitment to make every effort to contribute to ensuring that the Working Group continues to make progress toward the fulfillment and full realization of this human right.

Mr. President,

5. Just a year ago we commemorated three decades 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 that the human person is the central subject of development, and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development.
6. 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



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International Covenants on Human Rights, the exercise of their inalienable right to full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources.

7. 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,

8. During the XVII Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held in September 2016, in the Island of Margarita, Venezuela, the Heads of State and Government of the Movement highlighted the historical significance of the adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which was promoted by the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), and which requires a profound change in the international economic structure, including the creation of economic and social conditions that are favorable to developing countries.
9. In addition, at that time the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reaffirmed their commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and interrelated, through a constructive and cooperative international dialogue, capacity building, technical assistance and the recognition of good practices, while ensuring the full enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to development as an inalienable, fundamental, and universal right, and as a comprehensive part of universally recognized human rights, in order to build collective and sustainable peace and prosperity across the world.
10. Similarly, and consistent with and guided by its principled positions, the Heads of State and Government of the Movement also agreed at that time, among others, to reaffirm 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, and to give due consideration to the negative impact of unilateral economic and financial coercive measures on the realization of the right to development.

Mr. President,

11. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) fully supports the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development and its mandate, and encourages the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group to carry on with his efforts towards positioning the right to development at the center of the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda.



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12. In this regard, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) urges 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.
13. Moreover, we seize this opportunity as a favorable time to demonstrate and reiterate our unequivocal commitment to the right to development, in particular, the need to strive for greater acceptance, implementation, and the realization of this right at the international level.
14. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) reiterates its commitment to device appropriate means along with the political will to implement the Declaration on the Right to Development and achieve our common goals for a better future for all, **without** leaving “no one behind”, as conceived in the 2030 Development Agenda.

I thank you, Mr. President.