



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



**\*\*\* INFORMAL AND UNOFFICIAL DOCUMENT \*\*\***

## **RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES FOR ENHANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKING METHODS AND PRACTICE OF THE MOVEMENT, PARTICULARLY WITHIN ITS COORDINATING BUREAU<sup>1</sup>**

The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) acknowledge the fundamental importance of further improving the working methods of the Movement, including its implementation, as an important component of its process of strengthening and revitalization.

The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in this regard, reaffirm the content of both the document adopted by the Meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Methodology held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in 1996, and the Document on Methodology adopted by the XIV Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Havana, Cuba, in 2006, which serve as the frameworks for the consistent and coherent conduction of the work of the Movement.

The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in addition, further reaffirm that those practices developed by the Movement, which, as a result of their continuous use over the years, have become working methods of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), to this end, recognize that the examination of the structure and modalities of the Movement is an ongoing process, and therefore decide to promote the conduction of its business on the basis of the following practical guidelines, with a view to fostering transparency and consensus, and strengthening the unity and solidarity of its membership and that of the Movement as a whole:

1. Consensus should be maintained and promoted as the practice for taking decisions among Member States of the Movement, taking into account that it has historically enhanced the solidarity and unity of the Movement, principles that shall be upheld.

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<sup>1</sup> *The sole intention of this informal and unofficial document is to facilitate the work of both the Chair and the wider membership of the Movement, and that, in no way, its intent is to modify, change, update, or replace the documents on methodology that have been agreed at the highest levels within the Movement, both in Cartagena (1996) and in Havana (2006), and which unequivocally serve as the framework and the basis for guiding the Movement's work.*



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2. Flexibility, mutual understanding and political will are fundamental to address existing, new and emerging issues of collective concern and interest to the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). In this regard, the possibility of having to deal with situations of emergency that may require the prompt attention and reaction of the Movement shall also be taken into account.
3. Draft documents, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, shall be circulated for the due consideration of Member States of the Movement, under a minimum period of 48 business hours for comments and/or objections.
4. Revised versions of draft documents, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, shall be circulated for the due consideration of Member States of the Movement, under a minimum period of 24 business hours for additional comments, review and/or objections.
5. Agreed documents, whether they are statements or communiqués, shall be delivered or issued as such, unless otherwise decided by the Member States of the Movement.
6. When circulating draft documents among the Member States of the Movement, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, the authorship of the document shall be indicated, as well as a focal point and contact details from both the Chair's side and the proponent.
7. While conscious of human resources constraints among Member States of the Movement, when circulating draft documents, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, proponent delegations are encouraged to include, when possible, a brief synopsis or background information on the matter at hand, particularly in relation to new issues, as well as the reference to the language proposed, as appropriate, in order to assist other delegations on their respective considerations of the text, to provide a better understanding as to the rationale for proposing the text in question, and to facilitate quicker responses or reaction from the wider membership.
8. When addressing new issues, particularly those of a sensitive nature, or when divergences in views arise, extensive consultations shall be conducted with the broadest possible participation, including through the convening of informal meetings of experts, in order to facilitate the reaching of consensus decisions, which will ultimately enhance the credibility and effectiveness of the Movement, and without prejudice to the decisions or documents adopted at the level of Heads of State or Government or Ministerial.



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9. Taking into account that transparency is a key value for the Member States of the Movement, which fosters credibility and enhance unity and solidarity, comments, edits, proposals, and objections to draft documents, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, shall be circulated among the Member States of the Movement for their due information, particularly when it is so requested. Moreover, to the possible extent, a document with a compilation of proposals shall be circulated among the Member States of the Movement, in order to facilitate the consideration and review of proposals and edits submitted on draft documents, particularly on draft statements.

In this regard, Member States of the Movement shall also be duly informed of cases when the Chair decides to proceed in adherence to the provisions of the Cartagena Document on Methodology, while stressing the importance of understanding and respecting different points of views, including disagreements.

In addition, delegations submitting proposals or edits to any draft document, whether they are draft statements or draft communiqués, shall be informed of cases when their proposals are opposed by any other delegation, in order to facilitate the initiation of bilateral consultations, with a view to bridge divergent positions and reach an agreement or mutual accommodation, in benefit of consensus and in the true spirit of Non-Alignment. The Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (CoB-NAM) shall remain, nonetheless, informed, as appropriate, of ongoing bilateral discussions and negotiations, recalling its role as the focal point for the coordination of the Movement.

10. The Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (CoB-NAM) shall maintain all communication channels open in order to interact with the Member States of the Movement and ensure a fluid communication, from Diplomatic Notes to electronic communications, including other digital platforms or tools; such as, WhatsApp. The latter shall be used as a tool for facilitating coordination, particularly among experts, and in no way as a substitute for traditional methods of negotiation and consultation.
11. Taking into account that the monthly meetings of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (CoB-NAM) are held at the Ambassadorial Level, these shall be used as a valuable space for either presenting or discussing initiatives or other proposals submitted by any Member State of the Movement, as well as new or upcoming matters that the Movement is expected to address.