



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



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**

**THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
TO COMMEMORATE THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE UNITED NATIONS**

New York, 21 September 2020

Mr. President,
Distinguished heads of state and government,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement highly appreciate the convening of this high-level meeting to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter.

The United Nations, its Charter, and the international law remain indispensable tools and central in the preservation and maintenance of international peace and security and the strengthening of international cooperation. While acknowledging its limitations, the UN remains the central multilateral forum for addressing the pressing global issues and challenges presently being confronted by all States.

The NAM affirms that many new areas of concern and challenges have emerged, which require the renewal of commitment by the international community to uphold and defend the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law.

Armed conflicts, aggressive expansionist policies, terrorism, separatism, transnational organized crime and extremism coupled with human rights abuses, financial crises and environmental degradation continue to affect millions of people around the world.

The world today needs, more than ever, respect for international law and effective institutions to ensure compliance with it. The role of the NAM in this regard is of utmost significance. Throughout its history, the Movement has played a fundamental role in strengthening international peace and security and persistently called for strict adherence to the norms and principles of international law.

The NAM attaches great importance to strengthening the role of the UN and stresses that efforts should be made to develop its full potential.



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In its 75th anniversary we call for further strengthening and modernizing the United Nations, revitalizing the UN General Assembly and strengthening its authority as the most democratic, accountable, universal and representative body of the Organization, including in the area of international peace and security, and reforming the UN Security Council, in order to transform it into a more democratic, effective, efficient, transparent and representative body, and in line with contemporary geo-political realities.

The United Nations is the only global body with universal membership and unquestioned legitimacy and is, therefore, well positioned to address global economic governance with the objective of reaching sustainable development. The role of the UN in global economic governance should thus be strengthened. For the United Nations to fulfill its role in global economic governance, the political will of all Member States to commit to the UN processes and to multilateralism and its underlying values is critical.

Ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated once again the significance of multilateralism.

The Movement reiterates its strong concern at the growing resort to unilateralism and unilaterally imposed measures that undermine the UN Charter and international law, and further reiterates its commitment to promoting, preserving, revitalizing, reforming and strengthening multilateralism and the multilateral decision making process through the UN, by strictly adhering to its Charter and international law, with the aim of creating a just and equitable world order and global democratic governance.

This year is also remarkable for the NAM, since we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the adoption of Bandung Declaration which embraces the founding principles of the Movement.

Since their inception, the Bandung Principles have been navigating the countries that had expressed their adherence to them through the turbulences of the Cold War period. Following the end of the Cold War, the absence of two confronting blocs has in no way diminished the relevance and validity of the Bandung Principles. To the contrary, in light of more complex challenges to peace and development, they have become more important than ever.

Both anniversaries will enable us to take stock of the progress made in achieving the overarching goals enshrined at the UN Charter and Bandung Declaration, and reflect upon how we, the Member States of the United Nations, with shared vision and combined strength should respond to the multifaceted and emerging challenges facing the globe.

I Thank you.