



GROUP OF FRIENDS
IN DEFENSE OF THE
CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY H.E. MR. HECTOR CONSTANT ROSALES, AMBASSADOR, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA, DURING THE DEBATE OF AGENDA ITEM 8, ENTITLED “FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION”, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 52nd SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Geneva, 29 March 2023

Mr. President,

1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has the honor to take the floor on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. The Group of Friends considers that the Charter of the United Nations is a milestone and a true act of faith in the best interests of humanity. Its purposes and principles remain timeless and represent the foundation of an international system that pursues the establishment of a world where human rights, sustainable development and peace and security become a reality for all our peoples.
3. The Member States of our Group of Friends attach the utmost importance to the promotion and protection of all human rights, both individual and collective, without distinction of levels or categories, and also consider that their promotion and protection are strengthened on the basis of dialogue and cooperation, in accordance with the principles of impartiality, objectivity, transparency, non-selectivity, non-politicization and non-confrontation, and also taking into account the respect for the principle of sovereignty and for all other obligations derived from the Charter of the United Nations, including the obligation to refrain from intervening in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State; all of it within a framework of equality and mutual respect among States.

Mr. President,

4. The Member States of the Group of Friends reiterate their conviction that there is no other option than dialogue, cooperation, engagement and national ownership



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in every process that has, as its real objective, the strengthening of human rights, both at the national and international levels, while reaffirming their firm determination to continue working in an active and constructive manner to improve the effectiveness and scope of the Universal System of Human Rights, including the institutional strengthening of the Human Rights Council, in order to preserve, promote and defend the prevalence and validity of the Charter of the United Nations, and most especially of one of its main pillars, both in letter and spirit.

5. Only through measures that foster mutual and genuine trust, and notwithstanding any differences that may exist, will it be possible to advance the promotion, protection and full guarantee of all human rights in favor of a truly more just, democratic and inclusive international and global society, with full guarantee for the ideals that inspired the establishment of the United Nations and that today, as never before, all our peoples equally demand.

I thank you, Mr. President.