

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING THE
MINISTERIAL OPEN DEBATE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON
“MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE INTEREST OF A MORE
JUST, DEMOCRATIC AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD ORDER”**

New York, 16 July 2024

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. This being the first time we take the floor, we seize this opportunity to convey our best wishes to the Russian Delegation, as it assumes the Presidency of the Security Council for the month of July, while transmitting also our respects to H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation.
3. Similarly, we express both our gratitude for the timely convening of this Open Debate to address a subject of critical importance, particularly in the midst of the current international juncture.

Mr. President,

4. We live in a world that is currently marked, not only by a multifaceted global crisis, but also by polarization and geopolitical tensions, which continue to be deepened by an ever-increasing resort, among others, to zero-sum mentalities, bloc logics and unilateral policies, including of a provocative nature, that in no way contribute to addressing, through international cooperation and solidarity, and on the basis of cardinal principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the common challenges and emerging threats that lay ahead of us.
5. We ought to be clear: today, multilateralism and, more concretely, the United Nations, and all that it represents, is being tested. It is up to us to avoid that this Organization be condemned to the same fate of its predecessor and to ensure, instead, that the great power of both multilateralism, diplomacy and the United Nations be unleashed and fully realized once and for all, especially if we all agree that these are the main instruments to both address and find solutions, through inclusive and collective action, to those outstanding issues that continue to keep us from establishing a peaceful and prosperous world.

6. The protracted tragedy in Palestine and the ongoing carnage in the Gaza Strip is, for instance, a case on point, that continues to test the effectiveness of the United Nations, which for long has been in debt with the Palestinian people, which has endured for over seven decades the criminal policies and practices of an Occupying Power that has been emboldened, among others, by the inaction of this Security Council, as a result of not only the lack of commitment of at least one of its permanent members to the realization of a comprehensive and lasting solution to this question, but also of selective approaches towards justice and – and more regrettably – towards the very human dignity of an entire people that remains oppressed, occupied and massacred on a daily basis.

Mr. President,

7. The emergence of a multipolar world is, certainly, a key trend in international relations at present time, and, in that regard, we welcome the progress made towards the consolidation of this new multipolar world, rooted in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as in the values of true multilateralism, international cooperation and solidarity, and which clearly demands for an end to unilateralism.
8. This reality, however, is not exempt from challenges of its own. As a matter of fact, instead of being embraced by all, mindful of the opportunities that this new multipolar world provides, especially “for justice and balance in international relations”, as stated in the Concept Note prepared for this Open Debate, the truth is that we are seeing how certain governments, particularly from the developed world, insist on minimizing and even dismissing such important developments in the field of international relations, in a clear attempt to preserve not only a failed unipolar model, but also – and most importantly – their domination over the Global South, which is, needless to say, at the very core of this new multipolar world. The continued, systematic, relentless and ever-increasing resort to the promulgation and illegal application of unilateral coercive measures, for instance, is a clear example of such attempts that only attest for the end of an era of imperialism.
9. In this context, the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations seizes this opportunity to call for the redoubling of efforts towards the democratization of international relations and the strengthening of multilateralism and of a multipolar system, based, among others, on mutual respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States, as well as on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, for the rule of law, diplomacy, political dialogue, tolerance, peaceful coexistence, respect for diversity, inclusiveness, a culture of peace and non-violence, and due consideration for

existing differences, all of which are essential for constructively and effectively working together on issues of common interest and concern.

10. Thus, we call on all responsible members of the international community to seize and rise to the historical moment and, in the spirit of San Francisco, work hand in hand towards redoubling all efforts aimed at establishing a just and equitable world order conducive to lasting peace and prosperity for all.

Mr. President,

11. We are firmly committed to multilateral cooperation, in the interest of a more just, democratic and sustainable world order. Nevertheless, the realization of such a world order calls for all States to wholeheartedly recommit themselves, without accommodative interpretations, to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and to understand, among others, that each national contribution, be it from a big or small nation, is essential for achieving the noble goals that motivated the establishment of our Organization back in 1945 and for overcoming the current global multifaceted crisis and the common challenges humanity as a whole is currently facing.
12. In light of the foregoing and as we continue preparations for the forthcoming Summit of the Future, we conclude by urging all members of the international community to once and for all put an end to zero-sum games, cold-War era or supremacist mentalities, punitive, divisive or confrontational approaches, provocative actions or double standards, and the deepening of divisions and polarization, and to, instead, pursue win-win cooperation, engagement in good faith, peaceful resolution of conflicts and mutual accommodation, with a view to bridging positions and forging broad consensus that will ultimately enable us all to effectively address the challenges humanity is collectively facing today.
13. In our view, such an approach is certainly the best path, among others, for achieving the goals and purposes foreseen in the founding Charter of our Organization, for upholding international law, and for realizing the aspirations of peace, prosperity, freedom and justice of “We, the Peoples of the United Nations”. Therefore, our common role, at this critical time for humanity, shall be no other but to spare no effort in creating the conditions that will enable us to re-establish an atmosphere of trust and dialogue amongst all nations, including within these very Chambers of the United Nations, in the interest of both present and future generations.

I thank you, Mr. President.