

COMMUNIQUE OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

1. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) expresses its concern over the rapid spread of the COVID-19, which poses a major challenge to humanity. The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that it is through solidarity and cooperation among States and the international community that the coronavirus can be contained, and this pandemic defeated. In that regard, it is necessary to set aside all political ideologies and discrimination for the sake of all humankind.
2. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) recognizes that the preservation and strengthening of the values of multilateralism and all forms of international cooperation, which underpin the Charter of the United Nations and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is key at this crucial moment. In the face of this type of global emergency, the spirit of Solidarity must be at the center of our efforts. A high level of ethical and humanist commitment is required, where Solidarity and selfless Cooperation prevail in order to provide the peoples in need with medicines, medical equipment and supplies, food, exchange of expertise and good practices.
3. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement considers that, at this juncture, the enactment and application of unilateral coercive economic measures against Member States of the Movement have an impact on the capacity of States to respond efficiently, specifically in the acquisition of medical equipment and supplies, to adequately treat the population of entire peoples in the face of this pandemic.
4. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement recalled its longstanding principle in strong condemnation at the promulgation and application of unilateral coercive measures against Member States of the Movement, that are in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.
5. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement further recalls that this long-standing principle of the Non-Aligned Movement has been reaffirmed by our Heads of State and Government as well as our Ministers of Foreign Affairs in numerous Summits and Ministerial Meetings of our Movement, as it was recently reaffirmed in the outcome document of the 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non- Aligned Movement, as well as in the Baku Declaration.
6. Recalling General Assembly Resolution A/RES/74/200 of 19 December 2019, on Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries, which recognizes that unilateral coercive economic measures are a flagrant violation of the principles of international law enshrined in the Charter and of the basic principles of the multilateral trading system the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) urges the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral economic, financial or trade measures that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations, that are inconsistent with the principles of international law or the Charter of the United Nations or that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system, and that affect, in particular, but not exclusively, developing countries.

7. The Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) expresses its deepest condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones as a result of the COVID-19. It also expresses its solidarity with all those who are currently struggling with and recovering from COVID-19, and in recognizing the enormous contribution and dedication of medical personnel and health care providers in this humanitarian emergency. We are confident that together, we will overcome this moment.

New York, March 25, 2020.