



Statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Samuel Moncada,
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations

on behalf of the

Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations

during the consideration of Agenda Item 84 of the Program of the General Assembly, entitled

Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations
and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

New York, 03 November 2021

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Mr. President,

1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is honored to take the floor on behalf of the delegations of Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Republic of Nicaragua, the State of Palestine, Russia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Syria, Zimbabwe, and its very own, all of which are members of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. While welcoming the convening of this meeting to consider an agenda item of the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization,

Mr. President,

3. The Group of Friends considers the Charter of the United Nations to be a milestone and a true act of faith on the best of humanity. It is the code of conduct that has ruled international relations between States for the past 76 years, on the basis of timeless principles; such as, sovereign equality of States, self-determination, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, and refrainment from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State. These are all basic norms and principles that, apart from being the foundation for modern-day international law, today remain as relevant as back in 1945.
4. In addition, we consider that ensuring compliance with and strict adherence to both the letter and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations is fundamental for ensuring the realization of the three pillars of our Organization, as well as for advancing towards the establishment of a more peaceful and prosperous world and of a truly just and equitable world order.
5. In this context, we express our serious concern at the current and growing threats against the Charter of the United Nations. We refer, among others, to the growing resort to unilateralism; to the attacks against multilateralism; to the claiming of non-existent exceptionalisms; to the attempts to ignore and even substitute the purposes and principles contained in the UN Charter with a new set of so-called 'red lines' to selective approaches or accommodative interpretations of the provisions of the UN Charter.
6. These practices contribute in no way to addressing, through peaceful means and cooperation, the complex, emerging and common challenges faced in these days by humanity. Instead, they contribute to an increase in uncertainty, instability and tensions around the world.

Mr. President,

7. The Group of Friends attaches great importance to the work of the Special Committee, mindful of the fact that it can play an active and constructive role in enhancing the ability of the United Nations to achieve its purposes, including through strengthening the role of the Organization, with a view to enhancing its effectiveness and developing its full potential; a process that, needless to say, must be pursued on the basis of the principles and procedures envisaged in the UN Charter itself.

8. In this regard, while reaffirming our commitment to efforts aimed at ensuring the maintenance of international peace and security and the peaceful settlement of disputes, we seize this opportunity to voice our concern over the unwillingness of certain Member States to engage in a meaningful debate for considering the valuable proposals that for long have been before this Special Committee and which have been largely presented, precisely, by some of the members of our Group of Friends, as responsible members of the international community. We appeal to those States to give concrete demonstrations of their political will for effectively carrying out the mandate of the Special Committee in a manner that