



# MÉXICO

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Statement

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SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

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**MR. PRESIDENT**

**DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES:**

On behalf of President Enrique Peña Nieto it is an honor to address the United Nations General Assembly, a symbol of universal values and the best causes of humanity.

I take this opportunity to thank the international community, on behalf of the people and the Government of Mexico, for the generous expressions of solidarity and support we received after the recent floods in our country. This contributes to the Government of Mexico's work and the active and heartfelt participation of civil society to provide timely assistance to those affected by the phenomenon.

**Mr. President:**

In the past two weeks, Mexico experienced the unprecedented and simultaneous arrival of two hurricanes, Ingrid and Manuel, one on our Pacific Coast and the other on the Atlantic. Over the last few decades Mexico has worked hard to strengthen its capability to prevent and respond to natural disasters. Moreover, the increased vulnerability we face, underscores the urgency to act.

This is why we welcome the Secretary General's decision to call for a summit, on September 2014, to address the impact of climate change. Mexico will continue to contribute to the comprehensive implementation of the agreements reached in 2010 in Cancun.

I also wish to join the unanimous condemnation of the international community to the unspeakable attacks against civilians in Nairobi. I express Mexico's solidarity with the government and people of Kenya and offer Mexico's sincere condolences to the relatives of the victims. These acts constitute an affront to peace and clearly demonstrate the need to remain vigilant in the fight against terrorism. Likewise, I join those who have expressed condolences to the government and people of Pakistan for the recent earthquake in their territory.

**Mr. President:**

Mexico is a firm believer in multilateralism and reiterates its unflinching commitment with this Organization, the cornerstone of our collective security system.

Therefore, we voice our support to diplomatic initiatives that pursue a political and peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis, in particular to the agreement reached between the United States and Russia to eliminate all chemical weapons in Syria.

The prohibition against the use or threat of use chemical weapons is absolute. The events of August 21<sup>st</sup> outside of Damascus are unacceptable. Therefore, the dismantling and ultimate destruction of the Syrian arsenal of chemical weapons, under the authority of the OCPW and the United Nations Security Council, must be immediate and unconditional. We should leave no room for dilatory tactics or blackmailing.

Mexico fully supports the convening of an International Conference on Syria, "Geneva 2", as soon as possible and with the objective to achieve a framework for a lasting peace in that country.

**Mr. President:**

The challenges we face today, compel us to have a Security Council that:

- Truly represents the international community and does not extend privileges to a few
- Is transparent and with working methods that include genuine accountability; and
- Limits the exercise of veto power when faced with genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Mexico believes that disarmament must continue to be a key purpose of the United Nations.

In following with my country's longstanding contribution to the cause of disarmament, on February 2014 we will be hosting in Nayarit, on the Pacific Coast, the Second Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Arms and other Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Human security is also affected by the irresponsible use and illicit traffic of conventional weapons. Mexico applauds the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty.

With great vision, the Mexican Senate overwhelmingly approved the Treaty last week and I was honored to deposit the instrument of ratification here at the United Nations. Mexico will comply with it even before its entry into force.

Mexico calls upon all Member States to ratify this Treaty, a testament to our Organization's ability to achieve common solutions to shared challenges.

I also wish that with the same willingness, this Organization expresses itself against using sexual violence as a tool in areas of conflict.

**Mr. President:**

In confronting the world drug problem, Mexico acts in a responsible manner. Like Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Paraguay and others, Mexico believes that we should evaluate internationally agreed upon policies and search for a more effective and comprehensive response, that encompasses a health perspective, a framework for respecting human rights and a damage reduction dimension. The final aim must be the well-being of society in all its aspects.

And along with Costa Rica, Paraguay and others, we think that we must give priority to prevention efforts so that we are better prepared to reduce the impact on health, and especially, reduce social violence associated with the drug problem. Consequently, it would be constructive to strengthen international cooperation to reduce the illegal flows of arms and bulk cash that feed criminal networks.

With Guatemala and others, we consider that the new global strategy must be the result of an open and wide-ranging debate prior to the special session of the General Assembly scheduled for 2016. We welcome the Antigua Declaration in the Organization of American States (OAS), as a first step towards the UN's 2016 Special Session.

**Mr. President**

The fight against organized crime must always take place under the rule of law and with full respect for human rights. In this context, when confronted with the possibility

that the privacy rights of any citizen by any government are invaded, we have demanded that full investigations be undertaken and that the parties responsible for violations be held accountable. In Mexico personal data protection is a human right enshrined in our Constitution.

**Mr. President:**

Mexico firmly believes in free trade and in building mechanisms that facilitate the free movement of people, goods and capital. That is why along with Chile, Colombia and Peru we integrated the Pacific Alliance, which has a spirit of openness and plurality, as reflected in the heterogeneity of its current members with observer status. Our only intention is that the Pacific Alliance serves as a tool to spearhead prosperity for the citizens of our nations.

**Ladies and Gentleman:**

In this very Assembly we will start to evaluate the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to outline the roadmap towards the Post-2015 Agenda. The success of the MDG's rests on our collective decision to focus the actions of the international community on concrete, ambitious and reachable targets.

Despite this success, it is important to acknowledge the excruciating inequality, lack of participation and access to development that still affect those more vulnerable, both in developing and highly developed countries.

Poverty, inequality and social exclusion exacerbate conflict and contribute to undermine the rule of law.

The development agenda must be concentrated in achieving the high goal of inclusion. The convergence of mechanisms in favor of development, openness towards innovation and the political determination of the international community will allow us to move towards a world that provides opportunities for and to all.

The negotiations of the Post-2015 Development Agenda must place inclusion front and center, guaranteeing not only the reduction of inequality, but also of the gap between haves and have-nots, fostering an active participation of the most vulnerable groups in our societies.

This is why we will call for an international meeting to promote **A Global Perspective for Inclusion**, to be held in Mexico with the participation of governments, UN agencies and civil society, with the aim of defining the parameters of inclusion and its impact in development policies, so we can establish the minimum thresholds of inclusion to which every human being is entitled.

In this context, we recognize the relevance and importance of the high level segments on persons with disabilities and international migration and development. They remind us of the need to envisage that the fulfillment of these groups' rights is an essential component of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Mexico is a multiethnic and multicultural nation that is proud of its large number of indigenous groups. That is why we give the highest importance to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples to be held in 2014, for which we will be hosting a preparatory meeting.

Our experience demonstrates that to be able to achieve the goal of inclusion, we must look after every single dimension of poverty, not only the lack of income but also finances, nutrition, health, education, housing and other basic services.

And both in our National Crusade against Hunger and as member of the G20, Mexico has pushed to place those deficiencies at the center of the debate.

On the National Crusade against Hunger, the innovative feature lies in its focus on a multidimensional measurement of poverty that, with sustainable and structural actions, seeks to overcome shortages derived from hunger and identified by our metrics.

In the spirit of moving Mexico forward, we are undertaking transformative reforms to democratize access to a quality education, telecommunications, the financial system and social security.

Bolstering international support will be crucial to achieve the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Complying with our international commitments to financing for development, agreed upon under the Monterrey consensus, in order to bring about cooperation in a coordinated, transparent fashion, with quantitative goals, are issues of the highest consequence. That is why Mexico will be hosting the first High Level meeting for the Global Alliance for Efficiency in Cooperation next year. A crucial part in the agenda of this forum will be the mobilization of domestic resources for development. That is why Mexico agrees with all those measures conducive to avoid the erosion of our tax base and its potential migration to jurisdictions with low or zero taxes.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:**

Today the world is being brought closer together because we have a higher global conscience. We all feel affected by the suffering and the challenges of other nations, regardless of our location.

Let's capitalize on this consciousness so that we include those suffering from exclusion and help those who have not had the same opportunities. Let's do what is necessary in order to make this world a place where equality is a reality.

**Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:**

President Enrique Peña Nieto wishes to leave no doubt about his and Mexico's commitment with a world at peace, a world in which the best causes of humanity achieve progress, an inclusive world in which inequalities are reduced and extreme poverty is eradicated, a world in which economic growth allows it to reach the conditions so that prosperity benefits everyone.

Mexico accepts with conviction, before you, its global responsibilities.

Thank you.