



Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations

Pro Tempore Presidency

70° Período Ordinario de Sesiones de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas

**INTERVENCIÓN DE LA REPRESENTACIÓN PERMANENTE DE ECUADOR ANTE
LAS NACIONES UNIDAS A NOMBRE DE LA COMUNIDAD DE ESTADOS
LATINOAMERICANOS Y CARIBEÑOS, CELAC**

Tema de agenda 120

Revitalización de la labor de la Asamblea General

Nueva York, 16 de noviembre de 2015

-Cotejar con texto leído-

70th Period of Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations

**STATEMENT OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ECUADOR TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY OF LATIN AMERICAN AND
CARRIBEAN STATES, CELAC**

Agenda Item 120

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

New York, 16 November 2015

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Speaker: Minister Agustin Fornell

Mr. Chairman,

Ecuador has the honor to speak on behalf of the 33 members of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States -CELAC- , at a time when the world claims for a transparent, effective and stronger United Nations Organization as in its mandate given to it by the Charter.

This can only be achieved through the harmonious work of all the parties that make up the United Nations system, and particularly their organs, especially, its General Assembly.

It is there where the credibility of the Organization, in large measure, rests, thus CELAC reaffirms not only its support to its work, but also its commitment to work hand in hand with the General Assembly, with the view to attain greater efficiency which is vital to the international community.

In this regard, CELAC expresses its belief in the need to fully respect the competence and authority of the General Assembly and its role in norm-setting, legislative, administrative and budgetary matters.

It is in UN plenary organ of the organization, where all Member States are represented in an equal, inclusive and democratic manner, showing the universal nature of the Organization and, the sovereign equality of all its Members in accordance with the Charter.

It is inconceivable to think of a United Nations today in line with the contemporary system of international relations without conceiving the General Assembly as a central forum for multilateral work and debates.

Mr. Chairman,

I will now refer to some aspects CELAC would like to draw the attention in order to continue implementing improvements that will benefit its members and the Assembly.

We wish to start by highlighting that CELAC is pleased to recognize that some of the proposals suggested by our Community last year in this very forum, have been taken into account. In this regard, we appreciate your leadership, Mr. President, as well as the hard work of all the Members of the Bureau. We are delighted that a member from our region has steered the work of the Sixth Committee in such an able manner.

Additionally, we would like to thank the Secretariat for taking into account our views regarding specific measures to adopt agendas designed to achieve more ambitious goals. Keeping that in mind, we hope the Secretariat continues working together with the Sixth Committee and supporting its work.

In that sense, we would like to acknowledge all the efforts carried out by the Bureau and the Secretariat to avoid the overlapping of topics. This is a task that carries great importance in order to prevent that Sixth Committee items are scheduled simultaneously or at the same time than General Assembly items covered by the legal advisers.

Mr. Chairman,

As we have stated on previous occasions, CELAC believes in the usefulness of organizing thematic debates in order to discuss specific issues of critical importance to the international community.

While recognizing the improvements made on the scheduling of meetings, we call upon the General Committee, as well as the Secretariat, to further coordinate in order to avoid scheduling conflicts

between the plenary meetings of the General Assembly and the meetings of a subsidiary body to deal with issues usually followed by the experts that deal with the corresponding Committee.

Important debates coincide often with periods of time that have special requirements, such as the high-level segment of the general debate or the main part of the main Committee sessions and the General Assembly itself, having a special impact on those Permanent Missions represented here today that have few delegates thus affecting not only the attendance but even the quality of substantive discussions.

Additional efforts should be made in the work planning in order to always ensure a transparent, inclusive and efficient work.

CELAC emphasizes the need of close cooperation and coordination among all principal organs, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant General Assembly resolutions. Such coordination should also be extended to the agenda and programme of work of the respective principal organs in order to promote an efficient relationship, widely coherence, complementarities and mutual respect and understanding between these organs.

Mr. Chairman,

As in previous years, Members States of CELAC would like to insist on the full and effective implementation of all the relevant General Assembly resolutions on multilingualism, reiterating the need to ensure that all six official languages of the Organization are treated equally, and express our belief that this important task cannot be hindered under excuses related to matters of budgetary nature.

Mr. Chairman,

CELAC welcome resolution A/RES/69/321 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, in which Member States worked together to identify new ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations General Assembly and also underlines the need for the full and timely implementation of the resolution 69/321, which responds to the call for a more democratic selection process of the next Secretary General.

We welcome the commitment expressed by the current PGA to base his conduct on integrity, impartiality, transparency, accountability, as well as professionalism and effectiveness. We welcome too his interaction with the President of the Sixth Committee.

The credibility and work of the United Nations is closely interlinked to the performance of the United Nations General Assembly and who chairs it.

Mr. Chairman,

We, as Member States, are responsible for providing the United Nations the kind of leadership it needs and deserves in order to continue making this world a better place, especially for our future generations.

Thank you very much.

Tal como lo hemos expresado en oportunidades anteriores, la CELAC cree fielmente en la utilidad de organizar debates temáticos con el fin de discutir temas específicos de importancia crítica para la comunidad internacional.

Al tiempo que la CELAC reconoce las mejoras en la programación de reuniones, solicitamos que la Mesa de la Asamblea General, al igual que la Secretaría, coordinen aún más con el fin de evitar conflictos de horarios entre las reuniones plenarias de la Asamblea General y la reunión de un órgano subsidiario para tratar temas usualmente seguidos por los expertos de la correspondiente Comisión.

Esos importantes debates coinciden frecuentemente con períodos con especiales exigencias de tiempo, como por ejemplo el segmento de alto nivel del debate general o la parte principal de la sesión de las Comisiones Principales y de la propia Asamblea General, tienen un especial impacto en aquellas Misiones Permanentes aquí representadas que cuentan con pocos funcionarios afectando así la asistencia, e incluso la calidad, de los debates sustantivos.

En ese sentido, la CELAC cree que se deben realizar esfuerzos adicionales en la planificación de las labores con el fin de asegurar un trabajo transparente, inclusivo y eficiente.

CELAC enfatiza en la necesidad de una estrecha cooperación y coordinación entre todos los órganos principales, de acuerdo con la Carta y las resoluciones relevantes de la Asamblea General.

Esta coordinación debe también extenderse a la agenda y al programa de trabajo de los correspondientes órganos principales con el fin de promover una relación eficiente, amplia coherencia, complementariedades y respeto mutuo entre estos órganos.

Señor Presidente,

Como en años anteriores los Estados Miembros de la CELAC queremos insistir en la completa y efectiva implementación de las resoluciones relevantes de la Asamblea General sobre multilingüismo, reiterando la necesidad de lograr que los seis idiomas oficiales de la Organización sean tratados de manera igualitaria, y expresamos nuestra creencia de que esta importante tarea no puede ser obstaculizada bajo excusas relacionadas con asuntos de naturaleza presupuestaria.

Señor Presidente,

La CELAC da la bienvenida a la resolución A/69/321 sobre la Revitalización de la Labor de la Asamblea General, en la que los Estados Miembros trabajaron juntos para identificar nuevas maneras de mejorar el papel, la autoridad, la eficacia y la eficiencia de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas y también subrayan la necesidad de la total y oportuna implementación de dicha resolución, la cual responde al llamado de un proceso más democrático para la selección del nuevo Secretario General.

CELAC da la bienvenida al compromiso expresado por el actual Presidente de la Asamblea General de basar su conducta en la integridad, imparcialidad, transparencia, rendición de cuentas, así como profesionalismo y efectividad. También damos la bienvenida a su interacción con el Presidente de la Sexta Comisión.

La credibilidad del trabajo de las Naciones Unidas está estrechamente relacionada con el desempeño de la Asamblea General, así como de quien la preside.

Señor Presidente,

Nosotros, como Estados Miembros, somos responsables de ofrecer a las Naciones Unidas el tipo de liderazgo que necesita y se merece con el fin de continuar haciendo del mundo un lugar mejor, en especial para nuestras futuras generaciones.

Gracias señor Presidente