



Agenda item: 7

General Debate

Statement by:

Venezuela



STATEMENT BY MINISTER COROMOTO GODOY CALDERÓN
GENERAL DEBATE OF THE SIXTEENTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD XVI) MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE

Mr. President

Distinguished Delegates

Dear representatives of the peoples of the Global South,

1. It is an honor to address you on behalf of the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela Nicolás Maduro and the Venezuelan people.
2. Our greeting and special recognition to the Secretary-General, Rebeca Grynspan, for her extraordinary efforts to promote just and sustainable development.
3. Venezuela adheres to the Declaration of the Group of 77 + China and endorses the statement of the Group of Friends in Defense of the UN Charter that will be delivered within the framework of this Conference.

Mr. President, Madam Secretary-General

4. The right to development of peoples is seriously affected by the increasing aggressions that Northern countries exert against the Global South.
5. In this space, we denounce the threat of military intervention in Venezuelan territory, represented by the deployment of the Southern Command with warships, a nuclear submarine, several fighter jets, and 10,000 military personnel in the Caribbean Sea, off the coast of Venezuela.
6. This is a war apparatus that violates the sovereignty and right to development of Venezuela, threatening regional stability and peace, and violating the principles governing the Charter of the United Nations, particularly the prohibition of the use or threat of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.
7. The United States also violates the declaration of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace and the Treaty of Tlatelolco on nuclear

weapons. In fact, it has initiated extrajudicial executions through attacks on civilian vessels.

8. In this context, we highlight and thank the necessary statements by the Secretary-General, who warned that a military intervention in Venezuela "would be extremely destabilizing for all of Latin America and would violate international law."

Esteemed delegations

9. Since 2014, Venezuela has been affected by the imposition of 1024 illegal unilateral coercive measures in strategic areas for the life of our people.
10. These criminal measures severely impact our ability to manage resources and guarantee social welfare. Twenty-five percent of these unilateral sanctions target the oil sector, a fundamental pillar of our economy, while 22% target government institutions, seeking not only financial suffocation but also the total paralysis of our administrative structure.
11. It is imperative that UNCTAD address the issue of Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs), which are currently imposed on 30 sovereign states, including ours.

Friends

12. In this context, allow me to speak about Venezuela's remarkable economic recovery, which has seen eighteen consecutive quarters of growth since the end of the pandemic. The country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) recorded growth of 7.7% up to the third quarter of 2025, leading growth in the South American region, according to ECLAC data. We highlight that Venezuela currently produces 90% of the food it consumes.
13. In the realm of international trade, the results are also relevant: as of August 2025, Venezuela's non-oil exports increased by 78% compared to the same period the previous year. Sectors such as fishing, agriculture, and industry are now opening new markets worldwide.
14. In the face of multidimensional aggression against our country, Venezuela rises strengthened.

- 15.** They have not and will not defeat us.
- 16.** Recently, Venezuela received strong support from 14 of the 15 members of the United Nations Security Council. Voices are rising in support of Venezuela's sovereignty and the peace of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mr. President, Madam Secretary-General

- 17.** It is about upholding the founding principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of UNCTAD, which was born in 1964 with a shared certainty: international trade, guided by equity and cooperation, constitutes an instrument "to promote social progress and raise the standard of living" of peoples.
- 18.** We are called to defend multilateralism against blackmail and hegemonism.
- 19.** Venezuela advocates for strengthening UNCTAD's mechanisms for political coordination and technical assistance to foster the nascent industry of developing countries, the diversification of their economies, technology transfer, fair and sustainable trade, and global supply chains.
- 20.** Venezuela proposes to this Conference the creation of a permanent observatory on the impact of Unilateral Coercive Measures on trade and development. A mechanism, supported by the research and analysis mandate of this organization. For this, we make available the work and experience of the Venezuelan Anti-Blockade Observatory.
- 21.** UNCTAD plays a decisive role in promoting proposals for sustainable trade, financial justice, and South-South cooperation, contributing to ensuring that trade responds to the development objectives of peoples.
- 22.** A new multicentric and pluripolar world is being born. 200 years ago, The Liberator Simón Bolívar glimpsed this new world and proclaimed it as the equilibrium of the universe. Making the Bolivarian dream a reality is our vital commitment.

Thank you very much.