

Delegation from The Republic of Peru
Position Paper for the Security Council

The topics before the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) are Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict and The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security. As the Republic of Peru is no stranger to the UNSC, we are deeply aware of the essential role the SC plays in preserving international peace and security. We look forward to enhance multilateral cooperation in addressing the above mentioned topics at the upcoming conference.

I. Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict

Building and maintaining peace still remains of high importance to the international community, as violent conflicts continue to proceed and arise, multiplied with an increase in complexity linked to global challenges, such as climate change and terrorist action. Regarding the scale, the Global Humanitarian Overview 2019, published by the UN office of coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and supported by various humanitarian partners, proclaimed that more than two billion people worldwide are living in areas affected by instability, violence and conflicts. As Gustavo Meza-Cuadra Velásquez, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Peru to the UN, has stated, the Republic of Peru has “passed from two decades of chronic instability to the consolidation of our democracy and an unprecedented period of economic growth and poverty eradication”, and further suggested our country could serve as a model of sustaining peace in practice.

Acknowledging that the changing structure of current conflicts demands strengthened local, national and regional capacities, the Republic of Peru appreciates the work done by the African Union (AU) and other organizations in cooperation with the UN system.

At all-time being actively involved, the Republic of Peru has supported UN peacekeeping missions by deploying personnel to already more than 20 UN operations. We thus have provided over 5.000 troops to the UN stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) over the course of 20 rotations and deployed already several hundred troops to the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) since 2016, as well as construction equipment.

The 2003 established Peruvian peacekeeping training center Centro de Entrenamiento y Capacitación para Operaciones de Paz (CECOPAZ) in Anacón serves as a department to prepare military, police and civil personnel for deployment to UN operations and furthermore regularly offers training of military observers from regional Member States, such as Argentina and Ecuador. Our commitment to peacebuilding is notably shown by these wide ranging past efforts and our advocacy regarding participation in peace operations. The Peruvian government, military and civic society simultaneously recognize the importance of providing peacekeepers and continuously maintain a positive disposition towards our involvement, which is even inscribed by legislation in the Decreto Legislativo No. 1134 of the Ministry of Defense and the Decreto Legislativo No. 1136 of the Joint Command of Armed Forces. The commander to UNFICYP, as well as several UN officials have praised the professionalism of the Peruvian troops.

The Republic of Peru furthermore expresses its commitment to the SC resolution 2242 (2015), on the topic of women, peace and security, and to the SC resolution 2419 (2019) on the importance of the inclusion of Youth, evoking our interational obligation to assist those who are most vulnerable in conflict situation and acknowledging the role they play in conflict prevention and solution negotiation.

The Republic of Peru therefore calls for increased efforts and resources to promote Women’s and Youth’s participation in mediation processes.

As inner UN fragmentation lowers the capacity to address sensitive situations adequately, the Republic of Peru perceives as highest priority to enhance intensified collaboration and coherence among the UN entities, in particular as each institution provides a unique and complementary set of expertise and knowledge in regard to its mandatory. We moreover consider important that the SC develops concrete concepts on how to increase flexibility and adaptability in action realization. Therefore we suppose to set up an updated report of the use and usefulness of UN means and capacities and enhance consultation and interaction with local actors.

In addition the UN needs to improve regional efforts and to pay more relevance to respond to specific national and regional demands to support long-lasting national crisis solution instead of offering measures in regard of an evaluation by UN entities solely.

According to the dimensions of the challenge of mitigating conflict, it is vital to enhance strategic and operational partnerships with the international financial institutions and with regional and subregional organizations, as well as the private sector.

II. The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security

Climate Change poses a threat to international peace and security as it provokes conflict through an increase of forced displacement and increased competition for rare natural resources. Water scarcity, food insecurity and land loss are only a few of climate-related disasters having an effect on regional stability, causing humanitarian crises, violent conflicts and thus accelerating terrorist recruitment, migration and the threat of war. As UNDP stated, over 1,5 Billion people have been affected by such disasters, raising costs of at least 1,3 trillion US Dollar in the past ten years. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) additionally proclaimed in the Global Risks Report 2019, that extreme weather, natural disasters, climate change and water crises are the top four existential threats to the globe. Regarding this and considering that the Republic of Peru as well experiences climate-related disasters first hand – among other impacts we lost one-third of the Cordillera Blanca glaciers, what in addition to tensed temperatures affects our water supply and quality and further causes conflict – the Republic of Peru seeks to enhance the multilateral cooperation among Member States and global actors to stress this topic and make it priority to our international agenda, as it poses existential threat to all of us and has to be targeted by the global community in cohesion, as it is indeed a global issue.

Actively engaging in addressing the importance of climate related action taking, the Republic of Peru launched in cooperation with UN Climate Change and France the Global Climate Action portal in 2014, joined the Climate & Clean Air Coalition in 2016 and among other actions co-hosted the 2017 Arria Formula meeting on ‘Preparing for the security implications of rising temperatures’.

Moreover the Republic of Peru actively pursues the Paris Agreement of 2015 on preventing global temperature rising above 2 degrees Celsius. Therefore the Peruvian government passed its first framework law on climate change in 2018 in prosecution of our 2014 National Strategy on Climate Change, containing arrangements concerning land use, transportation systems, carbon capture, reforestation practices, waste management, and energy systems. The law furthermore established the High Level Climate Change Commission, authorized to propose change, adaptation and mitigation measures on climate change, which did not replace but complement the National Commission on Climate Change (CNCC), established in 1993. In line with the Paris Agreement, our Government suggested 62 mitigation measures and a corresponding plan for implementation at the 24th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP24) in Katowice.

As climate change critically threatens the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Republic of Peru welcomes the UNDP’s risk reduction efforts aiming at dealing with climate-related disasters. The Republic of Peru embraces the cooperation in several sectors, for example the participation of Peruvian airport staff and emergency personnel in the Get Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) programme, which has been launched by the UNDP and Deutsche Post DHL to facilitate emergency assistance.

Glad to perceive an increase in international commitment to climate-related disasters, the Republic of Peru appreciates the adoption of several resolutions by the SC, such as the SC resolution 2349 (2017), and the collaborative efforts by the SC and other organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on data collection.

The Republic of Peru proposes to advocate the expansion of the World Food Programme (WFP) climate programmes to more than the current 13 countries, as their action has had a distinct impact in peace improvement, recognized by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in 2018. Furthermore we stress to enhance national actions, as well as increased investment on climate protection as well as to pay increased attention needs of already vulnerable groups of people, in particular women, children and indigenous people.

Above all the Republic of Peru admonishes the Member States to adopt a SC resolution officially admitting climate change and its linkage to peace and security, as this has not yet been accomplished. In general we believe that actions taken need a more coherent, multidimensional approach, including national stakeholders and organizations.