



# PERU

## **Statement**

**by H.E. Mr. Ollanta Humala Tasso,**

**President of the Republic of Peru,**

**at the General Debate of the 69<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
of the United Nations**

*(Check against delivery)*

**New York, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2012**



**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT OF PERU, OLLANTA HUMALA, AT THE GENERAL  
DEBATE OF THE 69TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS.**

Mr. President,

1. My government welcomes with great satisfaction the theme suggested for this debate regarding the post 2015 development agenda, since it directly addresses the most pressing problems of humanity, as are inequality, poverty and hunger, injustice, and underdevelopment, factors which, in turn, create situations that our community of united nations cannot, and should not, tolerate.
2. This task, which we must resolve to address decisively, must be guided by the principles set out in our Charter, but above all, must count with a firm commitment from all members of the international community. Our peoples, claiming the implementation of a truly transformational global development agenda, do not expect anything else from us.
3. On this regard, I wish to point out that, by virtue of their universal, comprehensive, and ambitious nature, the consensus achieved so far to define the sustainable development goals of the post 2015 Development Agenda constitute an essential point of departure for these purposes and, in this sense, I think the process in question deserves our strong support, and must count with appropriate resources allotted timely to ensure their full implementation.
4. In line with this idea, Peru fully supports this process, and is confident that the adoption, next year, of the Post-2015 Development Agenda shall lead to the establishment of a global partnership for sustainable development, also counting with participatory monitoring and accountability mechanisms to ensure appropriate follow-up and monitoring of the process.
5. I wish to highlight that there is a clear-cut convergence between the guidelines promoted by Peru through its public policies on social inclusion and the goals agreed upon by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.
6. In both cases, priority is put on lines of action aimed at reducing all forms of poverty and inequality, and at eradicating extreme poverty and hunger for good. Similarly, emphasis is put on the fight for gender equality, empowerment of women, access to quality education, and elimination of all forms of gender-based violence and violence against children. Also worth highlighting is the importance of continuing sustainable economic growth and promoting formal employment. These issues, among others, are vital for Peru.

7. To this end, it is necessary to reflect on what type of State we have today and whether or not this structure enables us to move forward and achieve this challenge. In the case of Peru, we are pleased to highlight that we have implemented a set of State reforms geared towards attaining these objectives.

8. Peru has been working hard to set out and consolidate the foundations for sustainable development and is a clear example of how it is possible to achieve substantial progress in just a few years, without straying away from the fundamental principles of our Charter, such as peace and security, human rights, and development.

9. In fact, Peru is one of the countries that has most advanced, in a sustainable manner, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, some of which we achieved even before the 2015 deadline. Hence, thanks to the economic growth and an articulated and comprehensive social policy, we have achieved significant progress in fighting poverty, having set as a goal for 2016 -at the end of my term in office- to reduce this figure to less than one fifth of the population.

10. In only one generation have Peruvian implemented deep transformations, founded on the country's pacification, consolidation of democracy, stability and opening of its economy, and effectiveness of social inclusion policies, and that is precisely why our aspirations, objectives, and goals are ever more ambitious.

11. With this horizon, we see ourselves as an emerging country with strong institutions and proud of our cultural diversity and of the skills of our people, having reached important levels of poverty reduction and reducing child malnutrition, and one that has built an inclusive social platform for equal opportunities and gender equality, justice, and security.

12. My Administration is undertaking extraordinary efforts in this sense, and has prioritized its action in the fields of health and education. In previous occasions, I have talked about the set of first and second generation social programs that we have been implementing, among which are worth highlighting *Qali Warma* (a program providing free meals in public schools), *Juntos* (a conditional cash transfer program), *Pensión 65* (a pension program), and *Beca 18* (a scholarship program); all of these programs are articulated under a multi-agency strategy putting at the centre of all actions the human being and family, considering an individual's life cycle. This strategy, which we call "**include to grow**" is intended not only to alleviate the immediate needs of the poor and extremely poor people, but also to build the capacities of individuals while creating opportunities.

13. Every year, my Administration has been increasing the budget allocated to investing in social policies, reaching record figures. By way of example, I can point out that the budget for 2015 has increased by 12% compared to that of the previous year, and that around half of this increase is allotted to education and health, mainly aimed at extending social programs and implementing infrastructure and public safety.

14. Public safety is another great priority of my Administration. To face this situation, we are permanently monitoring citizens' claims and organizing the State's action to address them with force and effectiveness, generating a climate of peace and trust much needed by our families.

15. Historically, Peru has faced another obstacle to development: corruption. This is why we are taking drastic measures against public officers for their shameful betrayal of the public's trust.

16. In this regard, we are implementing in Peru a concept of education and public and political ethics, which is not only followed by those who rule Peru but also by all citizens, with greater emphasis on those who are called upon to apply and enforce the law. We are considering barring from public office for life those in public office who commit acts of corruption.

17. Now, I would like to talk about other great challenges we must overcome as is the world drug problem and to call upon the international community to continuing dialogue and deepening cooperation to counter this scourge. Hence, we believe that a United Nations General Assembly Special Session for 2016 will be an opportunity for the international community to address this problem jointly and in a cooperative manner.

18. The scope of this threat is unquestionably global and our answers shall consider this dimension. We prioritize a comprehensive strategy to implement alternative development, support, and social inclusion programs. In this way, we are recovering not only the territory, but mainly our people.

19. However, in order to definitively and successfully overcome this challenge, all stakeholders must participate actively. The shared responsibility of producing, consuming transit, and financing countries must allow to define a comprehensive strategy in which all those involved take on their responsibility and adopt binding solutions.

20. Concerning economic affairs, the recent adoption of a National Production Diversification Program, aimed at expanding the production base, creating a historical transformation of the economic structure of country, and promoting formal employment, seeks to leverage our capabilities and resource, promoting sustainable industrialization, entrepreneurship, and access to science and technology. Hence, we add value to our production and make our growth and development sustainable.

21. We plan to continue to expand and deepen our trade relationships, improve the existing 17 trade agreements covering 95% of our foreign trade, while moving towards the completion of the Doha Round of the World Trade Organization.

22. Peru's vocation for integration is widely recognized. For this reason, we grant special priority to any forum for participation, such as the Alliance of the Pacific -an initiative

promoting the free movement of persons, goods, services, capital, and cooperation among its members- or the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

23. This calling also alludes to the right of all countries to reach the highest level of social, economic, and commercial development; hence, once again, we call to end the economic blockade against Cuba, which affects its economic growth and delays its social and human development, impacting on the welfare of its citizens.

24. Peru's relationships with its neighbour countries are excellent. I wish to highlight the recent settlement of the maritime dispute with Chile, reached through international law and the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes, and also the fact that the execution of the ruling of the International Court of Justice was the fastest in its history. In general, the way Peru and Chile conducted this entire case is an example for the world.

25. Peru confirms its active participation in the international community. In this regard, we will be the host country of the twentieth United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP20) in December. On this occasion, discussions will be important, but national commitments will be essential. Today, I tell you we need to organize the biggest alliance in history to address this transcendental challenge as its agreements shall craft the future of our civilization.

26. As host country, I urge the Heads of State and Government to hold that a political will to move forward in a constructive way by sending delegations with decision capability; since it is not just a matter of capitalizing the Green Fund, but also of explaining the National Commitments, and having a binding agreement. Ladies and gentlemen, we must be conscious that humanity has achieved for the first time the ability of mass destruction without resorting to nuclear energy.

27. It is vital, in this regard, that the international community becomes aware that global problems, like climate change, require global, rather than national, answers. According to ECLAC 2011 studies, the cost of global warming to Peru is evidenced through floods, droughts, thaws, and heating of water, accounting for approximately 4% of its annual GDP. If we do not take immediate action, the economic impact of climate change could be over 5% of GDP by 2030 and 20% in 2050.

28. In this context, Peru recently ratified the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Biodiversity that will soon enter into force, in order to promote the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Genetic Resources.

29. The holding of this general debate finds us at a complex scenario with severe political, humanitarian, and economic crises; hence facing us with large global economic challenges regarding international security and global governance.

30. The Security Council's capacity to respond to the different crises in different parts of producing world reflects the need for reforming its work methodology, including those related to the use of veto. It is necessary for the Security Council to respond to these situations in an effective way, through a comprehensive reform including increasing the number of its permanent and non-permanent members, making such body more efficient, democratic, clear, and representative.

31. Specifically, on the Palestine issue, my government confirms the need to address the root causes of such conflict through negotiation. This in order to achieve a viable and lasting solution to overcome the status quo, hence enabling Palestinians and Israelis to live in peace and to prosper in the two states with secure and recognized borders.

32. The international community faces ever growing phenomena that transcend borders. I am specifically referring to terrorism, transnational organized crime, the global drug problem, corruption, traffic in persons, sexual exploitation, trafficking of children and adolescents, and smuggling of arms, among others.

33. The acts of terrorist groups experienced by the world in recent months, and whose consequences my country knows very well, deserve the most energetic rejection of my government. The fight against terrorism is a responsibility that the international community must undertake, under the law, with full respect of fundamental rights of any and all people and the sovereignty of States.

34. Regarding the condemnable events occurring in several regions of the world, the government of Peru has expressed its strong rejection to such barbaric and terrorist attacks of extremist groups against the life of innocent civilian hostage, and religious and ethnic minorities; these are intolerable events deserving the firmest condemnation of the international community.

Mr. President,

35. Peru is not just a country but also a civilization. Its culture is part of the world heritage, as recognized by UNESCO, which means a universal recognition to the extraordinary work of our ancestors, who knew how to harmonize development and the environment in a sensible way.

36. I would like to conclude my speech emphasizing, once again, on Peru's commitment to the development and implementation of the post-2015 agenda, focusing on sustainable development goals, and reiterating my call to allot to them the means required to make them a reality.

37. Within the context of the upcoming COP 20 in Lima, I wish to reiterate the commitment of the Peruvian government to its objectives and also to call upon the international community to participate actively with constructive spirit so as to benefit our peoples. Peru,

cradle of the Inca civilization and international capital of great food, is ready to welcome you.

Thank you.