



# PERU

**Intervención del Presidente de la República del Perú, Sr. Ollanta Humala, en el debate general del 68º Período de Sesiones de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas**

Nueva York, 25 de setiembre de 2013

(verificar con palabras del orador)

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**Statement by H.E. the President of the Republic of Peru, Mr. Ollanta Humala, in the General debate of the Sixty-Eight Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations**

New York, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2013

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**Speech by President of Peru, Ollanta Humala, at the General Debate of  
the 68th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.**

Wednesday, 25 September

Mr. President,

I am pleased to congratulate you on your election as President of the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly, and to express great satisfaction that this high responsibility has been given to a dear friend from Antigua and Barbuda, a member of our Latin American and Caribbean Community, a task to which I commit the firm support of Peru.

Let me start by expressing the strong rejection and condemnation of the Government and peoples of Peru to the terrorist attack in Nairobi. We are relieved that this horrendous attack has come to an end. Our full solidarity goes out to the families of the victims, the Government, and the peoples of Kenya in these difficult times.

The world changes, rearranges its agenda, actors emerge, and new scenarios appear in which the destiny of mankind is played out. Countries, peoples, we all have been affected by this rapid transformation.

However, we note with concern that some substantial aspects have not changed. Wars persist, most of them taking on new forms, operating out of public view and increasingly affecting innocent populations. Regarding the tragedy of the Syrian people, we express our solidarity with that nation. Peru condemns the use of chemical weapons, a fact that is unacceptable from every point of view. It is an affront to humanity and a clear violation to international law. The Syrian people deserve an immediate solution to the bloody conflict. We urge, therefore, all parties involved to find a peaceful and negotiated solution with respect for the mechanisms of dispute settlement. We also call upon the U.N. Security Council to uphold its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security.

Similarly, inequality has become more acute, deepening ever more the gap that marginalizes the poor from the benefits of progress and development, preventing them from enjoying the rights enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

It is necessary to strengthen, renew, and uphold our global commitment to develop peaceful relations among peoples, and to find solutions that rule out the use of force to fix our problems.

Therefore it is particularly gratifying and a source of pride for Peru to have managed, in the most constructive and cooperative way, the maritime delimitation dispute with Chile. We have a shared commitment to abide by and enforce the judgment to be rendered by the International Court of Justice that will turn, I am sure, the paradigm of our relationship toward a profitable and enduring one for the future of our peoples.

The rule of law and its principles in international affairs is, thus, an indispensable condition for our conduct as part of the community of peoples of the United Nations.

However, the main threat to international peace and security is not displayed in the relations between States, but goes beyond them, and may even make them instruments of wicked schemes.

We are referring to terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, mafias and corruption. All these crimes pose a real threat to life, progress, and development, mainly affecting the poor. At present, such crimes are the main obstacle to the realization of the goals of the United Nations.

The underlying problems, thus, remain. Peru, therefore, compliments you, Mr. President, for having chosen a substantial issue as the theme for this debate: the Post-2015 Development Agenda, 2015 having been set as the target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Our country is, happily, one of those with the best MDG compliance indicators. Since 2000, according to the indicators of the United Nations Program for Development (UNDP), we met early some of such indicators, particularly in the fight against poverty and extreme poverty, hunger, child mortality, and access to safe drinking water. In 2000, more than half of Peruvians lived in poverty. Today, a quarter of my fellow countrymen still face that situation. By the end of my term, in 2016, our goal is to reduce poverty to a fifth of our population.

We have undertaken to redirect the growth equation by placing emphasis on inclusion. In this effort, we are implementing a number of articulated

and mutually supporting State policies. Worth highlighting is that, in an unprecedented effort, expenditure is directed toward the poorest and most excluded, through a set of social programs geared toward improving the quality of life of such population; increasing the quality of education of children and youth; and promoting gender equality and access to health services, with special attention to those who are vulnerable.

We are deeply concerned to note that the environment is deteriorating, affecting our security, and, in particular, that of the most vulnerable populations; this without our being able to agree on measures to ensure our sustainable development.

The development agenda must also pay particular attention to the empowerment of women and protection of vulnerable groups. Our government attaches particular importance to the rights of indigenous peoples. We were the first in the world to legislate and regulate the right to prior consultation on measures that directly affect these peoples, in accordance with Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

We are equally concerned with the rights of migrants and opportunities for integrated development to which they contribute, fostering intercultural dialogue and economic exchanges between their countries of origin and the countries of hosting them. We encourage the free movement of people and welcome the Spanish initiative to promote the visa-free entry into the Schengen area for Peruvian nationals.

Therefore, we welcome the commitments contained in the document "The Future We Want", adopted at last year's UN Conference on Sustainable Development.

The process proposed in this occasion for the establishment of Sustainable Development Goals shall converge with the post- 2015 Development Agenda, and lead to greater capacity of the Organization to contribute to solving urgent problems and development challenges. It is, thus, pressing to integrate the various efforts undertaken separately. The United Nations should have a single and comprehensive development agenda.

Yet, in order to do so, we need to change the equation and put in the center of our efforts the fight for equality. Let us not make growth an end

in itself but, rather, let us turn it into a tool. This is why, in Peru, we believe the correct formula is "include to grow."

This is the direction that Peru proposes for the Post-2015 Agenda.

Peru has taken a quantum leap, and is currently among the fastest growing countries. The responsible management of our economy has helped create 800,000 new jobs so far during my Administration, and also to reduce unemployment by 7 percentage points. We are gradually diversifying our economy. Nontraditional exports account for a third of our total exports, exceeding US \$ 11,000 million and services exports account for US \$ 5,000 million. We are also developing our immense tourism potential.

The economic growth of recent years has been extraordinary, and I must say it has been the result of much effort, rigor, and work, as well as of democratic continuity and perseverance. Peru not only has managed to avoid the worst effects of global instability, but also has attracted investment flows unparalleled in the country's history.

Our task is to ensure the foundations that have enabled this growth, namely: strengthening democracy, institutions, the rule of law, security; building citizenship; and opening spaces of participation.

We have the means to achieve this, as we are a country of entrepreneurs: 98% of our businesses are small or medium, employing 75% of the economically active population and contributing with 42% of the gross domestic product (GDP). Thanks to our efforts, Peru is now considered an emerging, middle income country with new middle classes, with a growing domestic consumption, capable of attracting long-term investments for large projects.

Thanks to this, and to the extent that we strengthen our national capacities, we will be able to encourage industrial policies geared toward changing economic and social structures. Industrialization is for us a national goal, and in order to move in that direction, in December, Lima will be hosting the Fifteenth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Enjoying a central position in the geography of South America and a key role in Latin American history, we are a country that approaches its region seeking consensus, internal and external; and a country that considers regional integration as a decisive instance to improve the present and future of our security and our development. There is a prevailing conviction among us Peruvians: alone we can go fast, but together we will do better and reach further.

Peru participates in the Pacific Alliance, along with Mexico, Chile, and Colombia. Together we are moving toward integration with a strategic projection toward the Asia-Pacific region and the world. In that region, home to the most dynamic economies of the twenty-first century, we are also part of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, whose Leaders' summit we hosted in 2008 and we will host again in 2016.

We also participate in the Union of South American Nations, having recently completed our term as Pro – Tempore President. We also participate in the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), which this year held its first summit with the Heads of State and Government of the European Union. We maintain our hemispheric roots through the Organization of American States (OAS), and, at a subregional level, we are currently the acting Pro-Tempore President of the Andean Community.

We consider all of these fora complementary and we participate in them with a permanent calling for integration, dialogue, and consensus.

Peru is a reliable partner and committed to the causes of the world, and our commitment to the values and principles of this Assembly brings us to point out the need for reform. This in order to make the UN system more legitimate, representative, accountable, and effective through the strengthening of its principal organs, specialized agencies and organizations in the areas of security, development, and Human Rights. Peru shares the position upheld by a large number of Member States on the need to reform and expand the Security Council to reflect the realities of the twenty-first century.

Our aspiration entails more transparency and accountability on the part of individual economic actors, and greater justice in the distribution of wealth. With these objectives, in 2014, Peru will host the thirty-fifth

session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and in 2016, we will host the fourteenth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). We, thereby, hope to contribute so that, within the scope of the World Trade Organization, the Doha round can be resumed with better projections.

Mr. President,

In Peru, like in many parts of Latin America, the republican States were ill-established and concentrated in the capital city. Hence, their core problem was that they were incapable of attending to the whole nation and focused on, perhaps, a third of the country. It was impossible to build citizenship since, in practice, there were different categories of Peruvians: those receiving State services and who did not.

Our efforts should be directed to the creation of a "21<sup>st</sup> Century State," a state that serves all and not a few. While this has an eminently ethical component, its foundation is not limited to this important dimension. It also has a profoundly practical content for the society at large. What we cannot forget is that a State that does not serve the entire population repeats and exacerbates inequality. And while there are such degrees of inequality - I will never tire of repeating - any policy to combat poverty will have relative effects.

That is why my Administration has worked not only on economic growth. The history of my country has had other times of growth, but this proved unsustainable and benefited very few. Economic growth is a means and not an end; an indispensable tool, but not enough. Our people, especially the most forgotten, cannot wait indefinitely for growth to come one day without the State actively promoting the extension of its benefits.

In addition, this will start a virtuous circle in which the progress of our most vulnerable fellow countrymen and the development of a population free of extreme poverty, with health and education for all, will create the conditions for even greater economic growth. That is why we insist on the new political concept of simultaneous growth and redistribution. That is what I mean when I insist on the need to "include to grow."

Two years ago, less than two months into my term as President of Peru, I stood before this Assembly to emphasize my Government's commitment

to social inclusion. I said then that we were working to turn our economic growth into development and quality of life for my fellow countrymen. I also said that we intend to deepen our democracy so that it can solve the problems and needs of all. The country we want is a prosperous country, where all the Peruvians, without distinction, can enjoy the benefits of growth in a dignified, safe, and free manner. After two years in office, I reaffirm what I said. Our commitment is the same.

