



Statement by Mrs. Ana María Mari Machado, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba to the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament. New York, 2 September, 2015.

Mr. President,

Ladies and gentlemen, delegates and guests,

Post-2015 Agenda achieved the consensus of ideas in a comprehensive and universal manner after extensive debates and analysis.

Less than a month away from submitting the Agenda to the consideration of Heads of States and Governments, the proposals project great purposes. Still, they lack specification on how to achieve, by 2030, a world without poverty, hunger, diseases or violence, a world where all inhabitants have social protection.

Our main concern is the lack of conciliation with the means of implementation. Without those means, how will we prevent the agenda from undergoing what happened to the eight Millennium Development Goals?

So far, the willingness by most developed countries to fulfill their commitments to the Official Development Aid is not visible.

It is essential that the new objectives are consistent with the three pillars of Sustainable development; without them, speaking of democracy is impossible. We do not favor the inclusion of intrusive elements of political nature. The insertion of issues such as culture, population and a greater emphasis on the right to development would have been crucial. In addition, the changes that must occur in international politics and in international organizations, including the UN itself and Bretton Woods institutions, which are indispensable to achieve true sustainable development, are dodged.

Cuba, despite the blockade, was able to accomplish the MDGs with its social policy; several of them were reached long before they were agreed upon in 2000.

The Hanoi Declaration called us into action.

In 1995, during the 50th Anniversary of the UN, the historical leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro Ruz, expressed to the General Assembly his concern that the lack of rationality would pose serious threats to life in the planet, and highlighted his certainty on the possibility to find solutions to the crisis. We ratify today what he said then:

“We lay claim to a world without hegemonism, without nuclear weapons, without interventionism, without racism, without national or religious hatred, without outrageous acts against the sovereignty of any country, with respect for the independence and self-determination of the peoples, without universal models that totally disregard the traditions and culture of all elements of humanity, without ruthless blockades that cause the death of men, women and children, youths and elders, like noiseless atom bombs”.

“We lay claim to a world of peace, justice, and dignity where everyone, without exception, has the right to well-being and life”.

Without that, there will not be real sustainable development. The attainment of all aforementioned is the challenge of Parliaments that truly represent the interests of their peoples.

I thank you very much.