



**MISION PERMANENTE DEL URUGUAY
ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS**

**INTERVENCION DEL REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL URUGUAY
EMBAJADOR DR. FELIPE H. PAOLILLO**

Debate General de la Primera Comisión

58 Período de Sesiones de la Asamblea General

Nueva York, 8 de octubre de 2003

(verificar con palabras del orador)

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF URUGUAY
AMBASSADOR DR. FELIPE H. PAOLILLO**

General Debate of the First Committee

58th Session of the General Assembly

New York, October 8th 2003

(check against delivery)

MR CHAIRMAN,

THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH MANKIND LIVES IS DYNAMIC, BUT THE PRINCIPLES AND VALUES THAT RULE HUMAN NATURE ARE STABLE AND PERMANENT. THEREFORE, WHEN OPPOSED TO FEAR AND THE CHALLENGES POSED TO ITS SECURITY, IT HAS ENVISAGED AND ELABORATED DIFFERENT WAYS OF PROTECTION AND TO GO FROM UNILATERAL INITIATIVES, IMPERFECT AND FRAGILE, TO MORE COMPLEX MECHANISMS OF DEFENSE, ELABORATED WHILE KEEPING IN MIND THE COLLECTIVE CHARACTER OF SUCH PROBLEM.

TO THAT COLLECTIVE SPIRIT, AWARE OF THE LIMITATIONS THAT AFFECT THE UNILATERAL ACTIONS, IS TO WHICH WE MUST APPEAL ONCE AGAIN. GLOBAL SECURITY IS INDIVISIBLE AND AS SUCH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL OF US.

TO TRY TO QUALIFY THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN TERMS OF SECURITY IS PRACTICALLY USELESS; THE SOLE FACT THAT WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY IN THIS HALL IS A CLEAR EXAMPLE OF OUR NEED TO PERFECT THE MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK THAT IS STILL ELUSIVE IN MANY OF ITS ASPECTS, BE THEM WITHIN THE TRADITIONAL FIELDS OR WITHIN THOSE NEW CHALLENGES THAT ARISE. WHAT WE MUST DO NOW IS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS MOMENT, RECOVER THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE, THE NEGOTIATING SPIRIT, THAT MAY ALLOW US TO RECOVER THE POLITICAL WILL AND THE DETERMINATION THANKS TO WHICH WE ACHIEVED TO AGREE ON THE EXISTING INSTRUMENTS; POLITICAL WILL AND DETERMINATION THAT WE SEEM TO HAVE LOST.

IT MAY SEEM CONTRADICTORY TO DEMAND THE UN TO ACT, TO ENGAGE, TO MONITOR AND CONTROL, WHILE WE RESIST TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TOOLS FOR SUCH ACTIONS. THIS CONTRADICTION EXPLAINS, IN A LARGE PART, THE STALEMATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT, THE COMISSION ON DISARMAMENT AND IN THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN EVENTUAL SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR DISARMAMENT; STALEMATE THAT IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO URUGUAY. BECAUSE IN A WORLD IN WHICH WE ALREADY SPEAK OF A SECOND NUCLEAR GENERATION, A STALEMATE MEANS A SETBACK.

A SIMILAR PERCEPTION IS OBSERVED WITHIN THE MAIN LEGAL INSTRUMENTS THAT WE HAVE CREATED: THE NON UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE NPT, WHICH CONTINUES TO BE THE CORNERSTONE FOR DENUCLEARIZATION OR THE DELAY IN THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CTBT MAY INDICATE THAT HERE AT THE UN WE ARE NOT DEALING WITH IMPORTANT OR URGENT MATTERS. WE ALL KNOW THAT IT IS NOT TRUE,

THAT NOT ONLY IT IS IMPERATIVE TO MOVE FORWARD IN ACHIEVING THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION AND THE TOTAL OBSERVANCE OF THE EXISTING TREATIES, BUT IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO RENEW THE POLITICAL WILL TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. IN THIS REGARD, URUGUAY WISHES TO HIGHLIGHT THE HAGUE CODE OF CONDUCT AGAINST THE PROLIFERATION OF BALLISTIC MISSILES THAT ALTHOUGH LIES OUTSIDE THE UN, IT HAS BECOME IN A SHORT TIME AN IMPORTANT DEMONSTRATION OF POLITICAL WILL. MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED COUNTRIES A-MONG WHICH URUGUAY- HAVE CREATED THROUGH THE SIGNATURE OF THIS CODE, A SPACE DEDICATED TO AN ISSUE OF WHICH ITS RELEVANCE NEEDS NOT TO BE RECALLED.

MR CHAIRMAN,

THE EXPERIENCE OF URUGUAY IN ITS OWN REGION IS ENCOURAGING: WE ARE MEMBERS OF THE PEACE ZONE CREATED BY MERCOSUR AND WE BELONG IN THE FIRST NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE OF THE PLANET. WE KNEW THAT THESE ACHIEVEMENTS WERE POSSIBLE BECAUSE WE BELIEVED THAT GLOBAL SECURITY WAS POSSIBLE AND WE HAVE FOSTERED IT FROM OUR BORDERS INTO A SUBREGIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS INTO A GLOBAL LEVEL. THEREFORE WE APPEAL -AS WE STATED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS INTERVENTION- TO RECOVER THE COLLECTIVE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE AND TO IDENTIFY THE WAY OF CONSOLIDATING -BETWEEN ALL OF US- THE SECURITY FRAMEWORK AND GLOBAL DISARMAMENT. AFTER ALL, THIS WAS ONE OF THE MAIN PURPOSES PURSUED WHEN CREATING THIS ORGANIZATION.

FINALLY, MR CHAIRMAN, I WISH TO POINT OUT THAT URUGUAY SUBSCRIBES THE INTERVENTION MADE BY THE DELEGATION OF PERU ON BEHALF OF THE RIO GROUP AND THROUGHOUT THE STRUCTURED DEBATE, WE WILL MAKE STATEMENTS ON BEHALF OF MERCOSUR AND ITS ASSOCIATED STATES.

THANK YOU.