STATEMENT BY

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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

HIGH LEVEL PLENARY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO COMMEMORATE THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MULTILATERALISM AND DIPLOMACY FOR PEACE

NEW YORK, 24 APRIL 2019

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Madam President,
Mr. Secretary General,
Distinguished Delegates,

First of all, allow me to reiterate that Angola aligns itself with the statement made by the Representative of Rwanda on behalf of the African Group, and with the statement made by the representative of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

We also wish to thank you for convening this meeting, given that this is a very pertinent theme for our current reality. The United Nations, as a global organization, was founded to serve as a privileged platform for diplomacy and multilateralism, and it must remain at the forefront of the efforts to promote dialogue and the search for the peaceful settlement of various issues that affect humanity and the world in which we live.

Madam President,

The celebration of the international day of multilateralism should serve as an opportunity for us all to assess how we are promoting the values and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. It is also a great occasion for many of us to raise awareness on the importance of multilateralism, as an effective tool in international relations, to advance our common goals of lasting, sustained peace, and to build consensus on achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dialogue and a multilateral approach are part of the core principles and values of the Angolan Government when it comes to preventing crisis and finding peaceful and lasting solutions to conflicts at the domestic, regional and international level.

Unfortunately we are still witnessing a number of conflicts around the world where these principles are not being applied, with dramatic consequences for the humanitarian and economic situation of the populations. The changing nature of conflicts, specifically the rise of terrorism, trafficking in persons, drugs trafficking, and the multiple armed non state actors involved in
conflicts around the world, reinforce our belief that we must strengthen our cooperation in order to effectively eradicate this scourge.

Madam President,

Angola supports the current reforms presented by the UN Secretary General aimed at transforming this organization and make it more balanced and fair, namely in the efforts to reform the UN Security Council and other UN bodies to better reflect the current geopolitical reality. These reforms need to happen so that we can more effectively deal with the regions which suffer from most conflicts, enhance the preventive diplomacy initiatives and improve the three pillars of the United Nations, namely: Peace and Security, Sustainable Development and Human Rights.

Madam President,

The United Nations was not created to serve as a springboard for launching wars, threats, blockades, economic, financial and commercials sanctions against other sovereign and independent states. On the contrary, it was created for us to find common ground and avoid repeating the mistakes of the past.

Even though we respect the principles of sovereignty and independence, Angola believes in the importance of multilateralism for preserving peace and security and increasing development in the world, as a positive legacy for future generations. As such, we launch an appeal to all member states to continue to support the UN and its specialized agencies which are doing important work to further this agenda.

I thank you for your attention.