

PERMANENT MISSION OF



PARAGUAY

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Declaración de la República del Paraguay

**“DIÁLOGO INTERACTIVO INFORMAL, SOBRE LA RESPONSABILIDAD DE LOS ESTADOS
DE PROTEGER A SU POBLACIÓN DEL GENOCIDIO Y OTROS CRÍMENES”**

EMBAJADOR JOSÉ ANTONIO DOS SANTOS

Nueva York, 8 de setiembre de 2014

(Favor cotejar contra lectura)

Statement of the Republic of Paraguay

**“INFORMAL INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF STATES TO
PROTECT THEIR POPULATIONS BY PREVENTING GENOCIDE AND OTHER CRIMES”**

AMBASSADOR JOSE ANTONIO DOS SANTOS

New York, September 8th 2014

(Please check against delivery)



*Misión Permanente de la República del Paraguay ante las Naciones Unidas
Nueva York*

**“INFORMAL INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF STATES TO
PROTECT THEIR POPULATIONS BY PREVENTING GENOCIDE AND OTHER
CRIMES”**

Statement of the Republic of Paraguay

Mister Chair,
Distinguish delegates,

The Government of the Republic of Paraguay is committed to the realization and the promotion of International Law. In particular, it is committed to the implementation and of obligations undertaken in the realms of the International Law of Human Rights and the International Humanitarian Law. For these reasons, the Delegation of Paraguay has engaged in this initiative of in depth dialogue on the concept of the *States' Responsibility to Protect*. The Delegation of Paraguay underscores the relevance of this debate for the international community as well as the significant results reached during last year's debate; and welcomes with appreciation the participation of Delegations that are taking part in this debate this year.

The Delegation of Paraguay appreciates the efforts of all delegations to participate in this discussion, and encourages them to keep contributing and enriching this debate. The Delegation of Paraguay also encourages other Delegations to join this debate in order to make initiatives to achieve full respect of human rights and international humanitarian law more effective.

The Republic of Paraguay is committed to the compliance of the International Human Rights Law and of the International Humanitarian Law, and recognizes the responsibility to protect. Indeed, the Republic of Paraguay has ratified all international instruments referred to in the Report of the Secretary-General entitled, "*The Responsibility to Protect: State responsibility and prevention*", dated July 9, 2013. Furthermore, it has ratified most international instruments on humanitarian protection of civilians and disarmament.

In addition to these ratifications, the Government of Paraguay is in the process of ratifying the Convention on Cluster Munitions and has also prompted legislative procedures to incorporate to the National legislation the implementation of the Rome Statute, by establishing additional jurisdictional mechanisms to enhance institutional complementarity in order to protect the civilian population from genocide and other crimes against humanity as well as to guarantee the prosecution of such crimes.

The Republic of Paraguay is also a part in regional initiatives to protect and to

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promote the International Law of Human Rights and the International Humanitarian Law. For instance, it promotes the eradication of related causes that could result in crimes against peoples as an active member of the Latin American Network for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities.

Also, with the support of the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide of the United Nations, the Government of Paraguay has undertaken a number of initiatives to raise awareness and build capacity on the issue of prevention. For example, it has put in place interactive seminars, targeting government officials and members of the civil society that installed the debate on the *States' Responsibility to Protect* within the Paraguayan civil society. The Delegation of Paraguay takes this opportunity to thank the support of the Office of Special Advisor for the Workshop: "*Introduction of the Latin American Network for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities to the Civil Society – Chapter Paraguay*", that took place in August 27 - 28, 2014, in Asuncion.

Mister Chair,
Distinguish delegates,

The debate on the *States' Responsibility to Protect* necessitates universal attention; there is need for further analysis and discussion at the intergovernmental level. These have been the lessons drawn from the initiatives that the Government of Paraguay has undertaken to promote and to guarantee at the national level respect for Human Rights as well as for the International Law of Human Rights and the International Humanitarian Law.

Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Paraguay encourages other States to continue their active engagement and to deepen the debate on the *States' Responsibility to Protect*, in order to ensure and guarantee the protection of civilian populations, without discriminations of any kind.

The Delegation of Paraguay welcomes the Report of the Secretary-General recently introduced and reiterates the trust of the Government of Paraguay in the mechanisms of the United Nations to maintain international security.

Finally, Mister Chair, the Delegation of Paraguay reiterates its commitment with this initiative that will contribute to the full respect of the fundamental rights of human beings.

Thank you.