

Statement delivered by the Delegation of Ecuador to the United Nations, at the United Nations General Assembly Thematic Panel Discussion "From commitment to implementation: Ten years of the Responsibility to Protect," convened by the President of the General Assembly [Unofficial Transcription]

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Ecuador agrees with the concept of Responsibility to Protect but not with its selective implementation based on a double standard. When we speak about Responsibility to Protect, we can analyze this concept from the standpoint of the subject, the object and the mechanism.

When we speak from the standpoint of the object, resolution 2005 is very clear in that the international community, through the UN, is called upon to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. But, it clearly establishes that one has to resort to Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter, Chapter VI on the peaceful settlement of disputes and Chapter VIII on the role of regional organizations. This is a question which becomes invisible and, at times, one tries to go to the Security Council without even having gone to the regional organization first to intervene in the process under Chapter VI, peaceful settlement of disputes, which should be done prior to any analysis of possible intervention under Chapter VII.

With regard to the subjects, one can discuss who will decide this, when can it be done and how and whether those subjects first acted under Chapter VI and Chapter VIII or not. Also, Ecuador's view is that one has to discuss the question as to the implementation of Responsibility to Protect in the General Assembly first so that the implementation of this principle may be viable and legitimate.