

Mr. Moderator

1. My delegation welcomes the last SG Report "Fulfilling our Collective Responsibility: International assistance and the responsibility to protect" and this 6th informal, interactive dialogue on responsibility to protect (R2P). We remain confident that it will serve all its purposes.
2. The Government of Peru is fully committed to the progressive development of the responsibility to protect as a principle. We regard its three pillars as mutually reinforcing and non-sequential. We are convinced that the best way to prevent the risk of atrocity crimes is by ending poverty and promoting social inclusion. This allows us to avoid that first stage identified by the SG Report when dealing with the nature and dynamics of atrocity crimes. The Government of Peru implements successfully social inclusion policies in order to consolidate a more inclusive and resilient society, that ensures the respect for the rule of law and equal access to justice for all.
3. Peru considers that R2P should not undermine but reinforce national sovereignty and the equal sovereignty principle enshrined in the UN Charter. Let us not forget that responsibility to protect concerns mainly the State. In this sense, pillar II shifts the center of discussion from the alleged right of third States to intervene, to a real collective responsibility of several international actors to assist. And that assistance has to be aligned with national priorities, as rightly pointed out by the SG in its Report.
4. This brief intervention is divided into two parts. The first deals with the forms of assistance under pillar II that can best enable national authorities to meet their R2P. The second tackles the way forward in light of the upcoming ten year anniversary of the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

Forms of assistance

5. I shall deal with two, out of the three broad categories of assistance mentioned in the Report: encouragement (to meet pillar I responsibilities), and capacity building. These have been referred to, by previous reports of the SG on R2P, as "structural initiatives".

6. Encouragement focuses on prevention and involves the dissemination of human rights and humanitarian standards and norms. In this regard, Peru is party to most international humanitarian treaties, including the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and its two Additional Protocols of 1977, the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines, and has also ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
7. In addition to that, Peru is currently a member of the Human Rights Council and wishes to continue working for the protection of human rights in that inter-governmental body in the period 2018-2020. Similarly, the Government of Peru complies with processes established by human rights mechanisms, including the universal periodic review and special procedures. Last but not least, Peru participates in the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, as observer.
8. At the internal level, Peru has adopted standards in favor of women and vulnerable populations, and norms concerning cooperation with the International Criminal Court, in accordance with the principle of complementarity.
9. With respect to capacity building, permanent dissemination and teaching of human rights law and international humanitarian law (IHL) in both civil and military education, at all levels, is a mandatory undertaking of Peru's government. In particular, IHL is disseminated at the national level to public agents, and to police and armed forces. Special attention deserves the annual course "Miguel Grau" on IHL, organized by the National Commission on the Study and Application of International Humanitarian Law (CONADIH). Finally, examples of international assistance provided to Peru in this field include special events organized by the South American Defense Council of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), and the support given by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for the organization of several IHL teaching and dissemination activities in a number of cities in Peru, in coordination with national and local governments.
10. In conclusion, not only does Peru comply with its international obligations concerning human rights and international humanitarian law, but it also ensures that

its agents and institutions, at the national and subnational levels, respect those obligations and hence protect the population.

The way forward

11. In relation to the way forward for improving international assistance in light of the upcoming ten year anniversary of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, Peru will continue and further its commitment to peacekeeping operations established by the Security Council. However, it seems that without a real reform of the working methods of the Council, in particular those relating the use of veto, the R2P principle would lose its leverage.
12. Finally, Peru welcomes the possibility to consider the inclusion of the responsibility to protect on the formal agenda of the GA.
13. Mr. Moderator, the Government of Peru has been an active participant in the SDG's negotiation process, and the eradication of poverty everywhere is an essential element thereof that can ensure a better prevention of atrocity crimes. I believe that under that new development agenda we will be in better conditions to advance R2P.

Mr. President, I thank you for your attention.