



Statement by Senator Rosario Green



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***unofficial translation by PNND Program Associate Mayra Gomez*

I thank my friend Anders Johnsson for his kind invitation to participate in this third session of the Parliamentary Hearing of the United Nations, dedicated to analyzing how best to incorporate the issue of human security in the actions being undertaken by the Organization, particularly in Peacekeeping Operations .

The first consideration that comes to my mind relates, inevitably, to the very complex circumstances besetting the world in light of the serious problems confronting the international financial system, as well as the effects that this crisis is having on the real economy of all countries in the world.

14 years ago, within UNDP, human security was defined in economic terms, food, health, environmental, personal security, community and political, with special emphasis on respect for human rights of individuals. To a large extent, this definition contributed to the formulation of the Millennium Goals of the UN in 2000.

In both cases, it is about shared aspirations and are willing to subscribe to all societies in the world. However, faced with the consequences of the economic situation seems to me that it is necessary to reflect on the viability that exists to achieve their purposes, because there is no doubt that the implementation of the provisions that ensure strict respect for human security demand the application of resources that can become scarce as the crisis is manifested in each country and the whole world, affecting the finances of governments and those of the United Nations.

One of the first signs of a slowdown in the economy is unemployment, severely injuring economic security and generating social and political instability which in the short time will do little to contribute to consolidate the delicate process of restoring and maintaining peace in which the United Nations intervene and, quite possibly, may lead to new conflicts.

With regard to food security, it must be remembered that at the beginning of this year there were clear signs of a crisis that triggered food prices and created a deep concern about their availability, particularly for the most vulnerable sectors of the world population. This was related, at least in part, to a critical condition in the energy field that had begun to cause the diversion of a significant portion of agricultural production towards obtaining biofuels.

The question that arises from these first two considerations is: what are the possibilities of ensuring the health security of large groups of people who see their incomes diminished, and therefore lack the resources to access food and services health conducive to a healthy life?

This and other issues that relate to the expansion of organized crime, of which my country is a prominent victim, and also with social disintegration, one of whose expressions is the greatest migration, make up a scenario in which there is an climate unfavorable to the advancement of a culture of respect for human rights.

We are, and it must be said very clearly, at a crossroads where having broad consensus regarding the need for progress in human security of all people, as well as the urgent need to continue taking steps to meet the objectives Millennium, in the days ahead confront enormous challenges in the material to give adequate responses in both cases.

I would not only pose a pessimistic scenario and launch a warning about what awaits the world in the short term, but try to think about what should be the strategies to follow from our spaces in parliament to support the implementation of measures to counter the most obvious effects of the crisis.

Less than a week ago the Heads of State and Government of the countries that make up the G-20 plus Spain, met in Washington to try to find ways of regulation and management that would help build a new architecture of international finance. It was difficult to expect that the meeting had an explicit recognition of responsibility in the current situation on the part of the largest economies and the institutions responsible for guiding the progress of the global economy, but the mere fact of its taking place allows hope to find avenues of solution.

Of course it was not sensible to expect that in one day would appear magic formulas to solve problems whose origins, dimensions and impacts are hardly possible to imagine. So we must accept that the meeting last Saturday was the beginning not the end of a complex process of review and adjustment.

It is our duty as parliamentarians to make a detailed analysis of the proposals set out on that occasion and the main lines of joint work arising from it and its aftermath necessary, to ensure its translation into the relevant instruments of national financial policies and economic conditions.

The above considerations may seem remote from the purpose of this meeting of analysis on how best to take steps for the preservation of human security and its relations with the fulfillment of the Millennium Goals and other global issues as combating climate change and support for the UN in its efforts to achieve peaceful solutions to sensitive conflict situations, but I must insist that all this requires the availability of resources for their realization.

I want to leave it clearly established that this political juncture which we live, does not sway me one iota from my belief in the field of security and human rights, which today more than ever are at grave risk, but I think that the moment demands of us a responsible attitude to avoid raising aspirations that lack strong support for its realization.

Thank you very much for your attention.