

UNSC unfounded, unjust and illegal resolution 1907 against Eritrea

1 - Ambassador Ramírez Carreño

Venezuela's representative to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Ambassador Ramírez Carreño explains why his country abstained in voting on resolution 2244 (2015) related to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) against Eritrea:



" Venezuela abstained in the voting on resolution 2244 (2015) because we feel that the negotiating process that led to its adoption was not broad enough to take into account the various points of view held by delegations. Our request to extend the consultations in order to produce a consensus text was disregarded, and the text was drafted in a silent procedure despite our reservations. Venezuela tried to create a space conducive to understanding so that the varied points of view might be reflected in a balanced text that reflected the political and security dynamic prevailing in the Horn of Africa. After silence was broken on the draft resolution so as to pursue dialogue and achieve a consensus text, we were surprised when negotiations were reopened

among a small group of countries, without the participation of Venezuela and the majority of the non-permanent members of the Security Council. This recurring practice affects the working methods of this organ, in particular the transparency and inclusiveness that should prevail at all stages of negotiation in order to guarantee the participation of all its members and, ultimately, the unity of the Security Council. My country demands respect in the Security Council — respect from the penholders for the opinions and points of views of every country, whether permanent or elected Council members. Speaking not only in my capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) but also in my national capacity, we have reasonable concerns that there is bad interpretation and a self-attributed expansion to the Committee when it comes to what is set out in the resolutions that established the Somalia/Eritrea Sanctions Committee. Venezuela assumed the chairmanship of this Committee with a belief in the need to move forward constructively with all Member States to improve the relations between the Committee and affected countries, with a view to arriving at the ultimate goal of finding a political solution to the conflict. That should be the purpose of the sanctions instrument, which cannot be used for hidden purposes to punish countries and impact peoples. Sanctions committees make sense only insofar as they contribute to a political solution to conflicts. Their purpose is not to maintain or manage conflicts indefinitely, but to help to end them.15-33147 3/8 23/10/2015 The situation in Somalia S/PV.7541 It is clear — and the fourteenth preamble paragraph and paragraph 26 of the resolution, among others, reflect this — that some permanent members perceive this sanctions regime as an end in itself, and under that premise seek to continue to indefinitely expand the mandate and scope of the resolution to new areas, distorting any

political goal that the sanctions may have had at the time of their initial establishment. Venezuela is committed to the peaceful settlement of disputes throughout the world, in line with Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations. Our position is based on the importance of respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, their Governments and their peoples, as well as confidence in their ability to resolve their own problems without tutelage or interference, but by choosing political and peaceful means for resolving conflicts. In conclusion, I should like to appeal to members of the Committee. Our chairmanship has coincided with the important task of reviewing the Committee's working methods. I believe that the goals and functioning of sanctions committees should be subject to a thorough review on the part of the Council."

2 - Petr Ilichev

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations at the Security Council Petr Ilichev stated: "Experts must not build their conclusions on the basis of conjectures and unfounded accusations"



“ ...I should also point out that, as was the case last year, certain provisions of this resolution “ 2244 (2015) are based on conclusions in the final report of the Monitoring Group Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) – against Eritrea -, that have not substantiated by facts. Let me reiterate that experts should not go beyond the purview of their mandate during the preparation of their documents. They must be guided solely by verified facts, and not build their conclusions on the basis of conjectures and unfounded accusations.”

Source: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/>