

## **SPECIAL DECLARATION 9: ON THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS**

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on the occasion of the 5th Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), on January 25, 2017;

1. Reiterate their strongest support for the legitimate rights of the Republic of Argentina in the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, as well as the permanent interest of the countries of the region in having the Governments of the Republic of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland resume negotiations in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to such dispute, pursuant to Resolution 2065 (XX) of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and other relevant ones, as well as from the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), as expressed by them in the previous Declarations of the Rio Group and the Latin America and Caribbean Summit (CALC), particularly the Unity Summit, held in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, which are part of the historical heritage of CELAC.
2. In this context, the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States instruct the Pro Tempore Presidency to request the UN Secretary General to renew the efforts to carry out the good offices mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly through successive resolutions, with a view to achieving the resumption of negotiations aimed at finding as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the abovementioned dispute, and to inform them of the progress made in such mission.
3. Furthermore, they reiterate the importance of observing UNGA Resolution 31/49, which calls on both parties to refrain from adopting decisions that entail the introduction of unilateral modifications to the situation, whilst the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas are subject to the process recommended by the General Assembly.
4. They underline the full willingness of the Argentine government to develop mechanisms for the resumption of dialogue aimed at finding a definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017.