

In the name of God Most Gracious, Most Merciful

HE Mr. Rafael Ronkagmeulo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
Republic of Peru Esquire

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HE Dr. Nabil Al Araby, Secretary General of the Arab League

Your Highnesses and Excellencies

Peace be upon you and God's mercy and blessings

I am pleased on this occasion to take this opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation to the friendly Republic of Peru for hosting this summit and I extend my thanks and appreciation at the same time to the Presidency of the previous summit, the State of Qatar, and the friendly Republic of Chile, for their distinguished and loyal efforts to push forward the relations between the two regions forward. We should also mention the prominent role of the coordinators of the Republic of Brazil and the Arab League and also their tireless effort in the preparation, arrangement and organization of all meetings that preceded this summit.

Distinguished Gentlemen ...

The Third Arab - South American summit is being held in Lima capital of / Republic of Peru on October ١ -٢, ٢٠١٢ after the success of the first and second summits in each of Brasilia and Doha. Our participation in this summit comes to strengthen and develop relations of cooperation between the countries of the two regions in various areas; political, economic and social for the good and improvement of the peoples of our countries.

During the preceding period, several meetings were held to implement the recommendations of the Brasilia and Doha Declaration, and there were serious attempts to put them on the ground to be a platform for joint action that contributes, and we all contribute in, for the development and strengthening of our relations in all fields, especially as we face many challenges that require our diligence and hard work to make it successful. The cultural and economic joints that bring our peoples together oblige us to use these joints to achieve more benefits for the peoples.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies ...

The Republic of Iraq held on March ٢٢, ٢٠١٢ the ٢٣rd regular session of the Arab summit in Baghdad, which passed important resolutions that will contribute to the promotion of joint Arab action to face up to challenges in the Arab arena and as we confirmed in the Declaration of Baghdad issued by the Arab summit on enhancing relations of cooperation and the form of partnership currently in use with the organizations and regional gatherings

and international organizations such as the United Nations, the African Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the European Union, China, India, Turkey, Russia, Japan, and other countries in accordance with the mutual interests. We welcome in this regard holding the third session of the Arab - South America countries summit in October ٢٠١٢ in Lima, the capital of the Republic of Peru, and call for the expansion of cooperation and partnership with the countries of South America.

The Lima Declaration, and the numerous important items it would include, need hard work in their application in order for them to become a reality by our people, and we should remember here, that no matter how busy we were in the escalating events in the Arab region, yet this cannot preclude further work on the development of different relations between our countries.

We look forward to deepening these relations between our countries through the implementation of the decisions and ideas that will be provided by the "Lima Declaration" and to ensure the achievement of the development cooperation in all its forms (economic, financial, cultural and educational cooperation in the areas of cultural diversity and environmental cooperation and cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation, as well as cooperation in social affairs to contribute to the social development of our countries).

We also stress the need to adopt a comprehensive vision for political, economic and social reform to ensure preserving the dignity of citizens in our countries and promote their rights in a world witnessing rapid evolving in the communication means, and to meet the demands of our people for freedom, social justice and political participation that were embodied by the developments experienced by our people, and to advocate to achieving economic integration to promote the economies of the countries that witnessed the changes, which requires support that secures a safe future for our generations.

We applaud the developments and political changes that took place in the Arab region and the steps and major democratic trends which raised the status of the Arab peoples and boosted the chances of building the state on the basis of respect of law and to achieve solidarity and social justice, we also applaud the people who led these steps.

The years that followed the Second Summit of Doha witnessed holding five preparatory meetings for senior officials in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Arab countries and South American countries during which they discussed draft paragraphs of "Lima Declaration" which will be released by the third summit of the two regions, which will be held on ١ -٢/١٠. These meetings reached convergent vision and consensus in drafting the declaration with the exception of some paragraphs that were not agreed upon. We also stress the importance of cooperation in the economic field where both sides expressed keen interest in this area; relations between the countries of the two regions witnessed a remarkable development in this aspect through an increase in trade exchange rate, which reached more than \$٢٠ billion at the end of ٢٠١١, it was \$٦ billion in the previous years. Based on the foregoing, the third forum for businessmen in the Arab and South American countries will be held on the sidelines of the third summit with a participation of a wide range of businessmen of the two sides to strengthen trade relations. Bolivia will also host the third meeting of the Ministers of Economy and Finance and Commerce in ٢٠١٢. The first

industrial forum will also be held among states the two regions hosted by the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining in Beirut in ٢٠١٣.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies.....

We should pay tribute and homage to the Palestinian people in their struggle in facing up to the ongoing Israeli aggression on them, their land, holy places, heritage, and support their steadfastness for an independent Palestinian state and Al Quds as its capital. We also strongly condemn the continued Israeli violations against the Palestinian people and the occupied Palestinian territories, and Israel's continued settlement activities despite international condemnations of these illegal practices and violations of international humanitarian law and human rights conventions, we also call for the activation of the Arab, Islamic, and international resolutions against the Israeli repression in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

We find that it is necessary to emphasize our full support to the aspirations and legitimate demands of the Syrian people for freedom and democracy and the right to chart their own future, the peaceful transfer of power, condemn acts of violence, killing and stop the bloodshed, adhere to a political solution and national dialogue and rejection of foreign interference in the Syrian crisis to preserve the unity of Syria and the integrity of its people, and affirm our support and our commitment to the resolutions adopted by the Arab League in this regard, and the support of everyone involved in resolving it peacefully.

The scourge of terrorism has reached our countries, a thing that obliges us all to move under an international integrated program for the total elimination of it, we also have to reiterate again our condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, whatever its source and whatever the motives and justifications were, and the need to uproot it and dry its intellectual and financial resources and remove factors that feed it. We also should reject extremism and stay away from fatwas provoking sedition and inciting sectarian strife, and urge the relevant institutions in our countries to increase their coordination to combat it, and support international cooperation to combat this phenomenon.

Your Highnesses and Excellencies....

Allah Almighty has made us into nations and tribes to get to know each other. The call to intensify the dialogue between religions, civilizations and peoples and the establishment of a culture of openness and activating cooperation and coordination between cultural institutions in our countries is necessary to create a better convergence, accept each other, support the principles of brotherhood and tolerance, reject extremism, staying away from fatwas provoking sedition, respect for religious and humanity values which emphasizes human rights and uphold their dignity and safeguard their freedom, preserve on the rights of all citizens without any discrimination of race, religion or sect to which they belong. In this respect, we praise all the initiatives unanimously adopted by the UN General Assembly during the previous years, and we call for supporting and cooperating with them. The respect of man by man regardless of his religion, belief or affiliation is an imperative necessity to be considered. The events circulated recently that offended the feelings of

Muslims around the globe, whether they were intended or not, we should denounce them and demand non repetition of such provocative behavior which leads to needless sedition.

Distinguished Gentlemen.....

Finally, we renew our thanks and appreciation to the government and people of the Republic of Peru for hosting the Third Summit of our nations, praying Allah Almighty to enhance our steps and help us all to the success of our mission.

Peace be upon you...