

Dialogue to achieve a National Accord

Following the call of the President of the Republic, the representatives of the political forces in the Congress, civil society and government commit to start a dialog to achieve a National Accord. We intend this National Accord to be the base for transition to and consolidation of democracy, affirmation of national identity and shared vision of the country in the future through the formulation of State policies.

We conceive this act as an expression of the value that dialog and respect to the thoughts and identity of each participant and everybody's proposals have in a democracy. We express our support to dialog spaces being developed in different State and society instances and we acknowledge the need to institutionalize dialog as a means to enrich our representative democracy.

We commit our efforts so that this national dialog takes place in a political climate of peace and freedom with respect to everybody's rights, affirming citizens' responsibility and condemning any violent action, coming from any party, as it is incompatible with the consensus spirit inherent to an authentic national dialog process.

We state the full force and effect of the rule of law and democratic regime. A National Accord must aim at directly fighting against poverty and for social justice through a shared vision of the country and State policies addressed, among others, at achieving universal access to health services and quality education (social equity forum), dignified and productive employment generation, respecting social rights, within the framework of an economic policy that promotes investment, hemispheric integration, growth with equity and that respects fiscal balance (competitiveness forum), as well as the institutionalization of a modern, decentralized and ethical State to serve citizens (institutional framework and public ethics forum).

We agree that the consensus reached in the topical forums shall be translated into precise targets, with follow up indicators to permit political forces and society to verify their compliance.

We call Peruvians to actively participate in this process and in the search for consensus so as to strengthen democracy. Criticism and disagreement are necessary in democracy, but it is more important to develop a climate of dialog and reflection to work in agreement so as to satisfy the needs of all Peruvians.

Signed in the Palace of Government on the sixth day of the month of March 2002 by

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President of the Republic

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