

**COLOMBIA**



**PALABRAS DEL EMBAJADOR ALTERNO  
ANDRES RUGELES PINEDA  
MISION PERMANENTE DE COLOMBIA ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS  
SEGMENTO INTERACTIVO – SESION PRINCIPAL JUNTA EJECUTIVA UNDP,  
UNFPA Y UNOPS**

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*Verificar contra el discurso pronunciado*

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Mr. President, members of the Executive Board:

I thank you for convening this important session in which Colombia is honored to participate.

I would like to highlight UNDP's commitment to the reform of the United Nations Development System, as well as its support to countries in their efforts to achieve the SDGs. At national level, the leadership of the resident coordinator is pivotal for this goal.

Also, I recognize the contributions of UNDP in the implementation of its Strategic Plan. The Program has contributed to increase the financial stability and efficiency in the use of resources, while investing in more development programs and services.

We have positively observed the reinforcement of teamwork and the better use of its comparative advantages on the field.

In this sense, we consider very important the creation of new associations aimed at building peace and humanitarian affairs, improving population's access to basic services, strengthening local governance, protecting human rights, among other issues.

For Colombia, it is clear that there are valuable advances in the implementation of the UNDP Strategic Plan.

However, today we face a double challenge: to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic and to reach the SDGs. Let remember that this should be the decade of action.

I would like to underline the need to start laying the foundations for the next Strategic Plan and to strengthen the articulated action of the United Nations System.

There is no doubt that this is the time for more cooperation, more coordination and more solidarity. Working together is the only possible path to overcome the challenges of what could be called “the global triple crisis” (health, economic and political).

To conclude, I wish to evoke the philosopher Aristotle, who used to state: “It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light”.

I invite you to seek and see the light!!!

Thank you.