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Culture of peace**Letter dated 30 July 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter signed by Dr. Héctor Lacognata, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay (see annex), informing you of ministerial decision No. 993, which declares of institutional interest the efforts undertaken by the Cruzada Mundial de la Amistad (World Friendship Crusade), a Paraguayan non-profit entity, towards the proclamation by the United Nations of 30 July as “World Friendship Day”.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 49.

(Signed) José Antonio **Dos Santos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 30 July 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Asunción, 16 July 2010

I have the honour to inform you that today I signed ministerial decision No. 993, a copy of which is attached (see enclosure), declaring of institutional interest the efforts undertaken by Cruzada Mundial de la Amistad (World Friendship Crusade), a Paraguayan non-profit entity, towards the proclamation by the United Nations of 30 July as “World Friendship Day”.

As a Paraguayan, first and foremost, but also as Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay, I felt it necessary to bring to your attention this noble initiative, which was started over 50 years ago by my compatriot Dr. Ramón Artemio Bracho, and whose core objective is to build a more fraternal global society, thus promoting a culture of peace, respect and mutual acceptance worldwide, without any distinction whatsoever.

As you will see in the enclosure, this initiative has earned not only the support of the Government and people of Paraguay, but also the global recognition of eminent individuals, nationally and internationally, who have contributed in various ways to making this long-sought dream a reality.

In the light of the foregoing, I would ask you to devote your best efforts to ensuring that this proposal is submitted to the other United Nations Member States for their consideration.

(Signed) Héctor **Lacognata**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure**Decision No. 993, declaring of institutional interest the efforts undertaken by Cruzada Mundial de la Amistad (World Friendship Crusade) towards the proclamation by the United Nations of 30 July as “World Friendship Day”**

Asunción, 16 July 2010

In view of:

The national and international campaign led by Cruzada Mundial de la Amistad, which was founded by compatriot Dr. Ramón Artemio Bracho over 50 years ago as a non-profit entity, for the formal recognition by the United Nations of 30 July as “World Friendship Day”.

Considering:

That this noble initiative has earned the acceptance of the Government and people of the Republic of Paraguay, as well as the support of eminent individuals, nationally and internationally, for its core objective, which is to build a more fraternal global society, thus promoting a culture of peace, respect and acceptance of others worldwide.

That international affairs fall under the responsibility of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and that therefore it is considered appropriate to provide the institutional support necessary for a formal declaration by the United Nations of such an important day.

Therefore:

The Minister for Foreign Affairs

Decides:

Article 1: To declare of institutional interest the efforts undertaken by Cruzada Mundial de la Amistad towards the proclamation by the United Nations of 30 July as “World Friendship Day”.

Article 2: To request the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Paraguay to the United Nations in New York, United States of America, to take the necessary steps to formally present this initiative and achieve the objectives set out in article 1 of the present decision.

Article 3: To inform all those concerned and archive.

(Signed) **Héctor Lacognata**
Minister for Foreign Affairs