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General debate

Letter dated 25 September 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the written statement of the delegation of Chile in exercise of the right of reply to the statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Celinda Sosa Lunda, on 25 September 2024, at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, during the general debate at the 10th plenary meeting (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

(Signed) Paula Narváez



Annex to the letter dated 25 September 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Reply of Chile to the statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Celinda Sosa Lunda, on 25 September 2024, at the seventy-ninth regular session of the General Assembly of the United Nations

In exercise of the right to reply, my delegation wishes to express its concern about the inaccurate assertions made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Plurinational State of Bolivia during her statement, with respect to the judgment of the International Court of Justice of 1 October 2018, in the case entitled *Obligation to Negotiate Access to the Pacific Ocean (Bolivia v. Chile)*.

In her statement, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bolivia said that “the Court called upon our two countries to find, through dialogue, a solution favourable to both peoples, in order to grant Bolivia a sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean.”

My delegation must clarify that the International Court, in its judgment, clearly finds that the Republic of Chile did not undertake an obligation to negotiate a sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean for the Plurinational State of Bolivia. While the Court adds that its finding does not preclude the Parties from continuing their dialogue and exchanges, in a spirit of good neighbourliness, it never stipulates that the aim of such dialogue is to grant a sovereign access to the Pacific Ocean, as mistakenly claimed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of that country.

Chile would like to reiterate that the judgment completely and definitively resolves the dispute between the two States and leaves no disagreements pending on the matter. Once again, Chile reaffirms its full respect for the judgment of the International Court of Justice in line with its foreign policy principles, in full respect for international law and the peaceful settlement of disputes.
