

# *Bolivia proposes to strengthen CELAC to replace Organization of American States*

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The Bolivian ambassador to the UN, Diego Pary, announced that his president will propose the strengthening of the regional organization at the upcoming Summit of Heads of State. | Photo: EFE

La Paz, September 17 (RHC)-- Within the framework of the Sixth Summit of Heads of State of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), to be held tomorrow, Saturday, in

Mexico, Bolivia intends to propose strengthening the regional mechanism as an alternative to the Organization of American States (OAS).

According to Bolivia's permanent representative to the United Nations -- Diego Pary Rodríguez -- President Luis Arce will maintain his position on the need for an international organization: a CELAC that gathers common issues among member states and is able to dialogue with other international mechanisms.

Diego Pary said that Latin America and the Caribbean nations require a CELAC with the necessary strength for dialogue, negotiation and articulation with other areas. "The OAS has lost all validity, it has neither the moral authority, nor even the representativeness of the States to do the work that corresponds to CELAC", said the Bolivian ambassador to the United Nations.

For his part, the Bolivian ambassador to Mexico, Jorge Crespo, announced that Mexican President Andrés López Obrador will put this initiative, which he himself presented at the 21st CELAC Meeting of Foreign Ministers, to the consideration of the leaders of the bloc. "I believe that this OAS is no longer functional even for the United States. Mr. Almagro -- referring to Luis Almagro, the head of the OAS -- is so discredited that it is not even convenient for the U.S. that he is leading the organization."

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