

# *UN General Assembly opens its doors to debate*

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New York, September 24 (RHC)-- The 74th session of the UN General Assembly is opening its doors to the general debate, which this year is being attended by more than 135 Heads of State and Government.

The list of speakers for the opening day includes several Latin American presidents: Jair Bolsonaro (Brazil), Evo Morales (Bolivia), Sebastian Piñera (Chile), Mauricio Macri (Argentina) and Martín Vizcarra (Peru).

Following a tradition started in 1947, Brazil will open the general debate followed by the president of the UN host country, Donald Trump, who is criticized by the international community for his lack of confidence in multilateralism and its organizations and agreements.

The host country is also being criticized for its denial of visas to members of delegations from countries which do not abide by its dictates.

Although there will be numerous high-level events this week, many of the summits are related and the common thread that unites them are the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

On Tuesday and Wednesday the SDS will be discussed , and on Thursday there will be a high-level dialogue on financing for development.

Meanwhile, on Friday there will be a high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing states, through the implementation of the accelerated modalities of action track.

This 74th session of the UN General Assembly is chaired by Nigerian diplomat Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, who prioritized poverty eradication, quality education and inclusion in his mandate.

He also pledged to make further progress on gender parity issues.

The 62-year-old African leader became the second Nigerian to take office, after Joseph Nanven Garba, who headed the General Assembly in 1989.

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