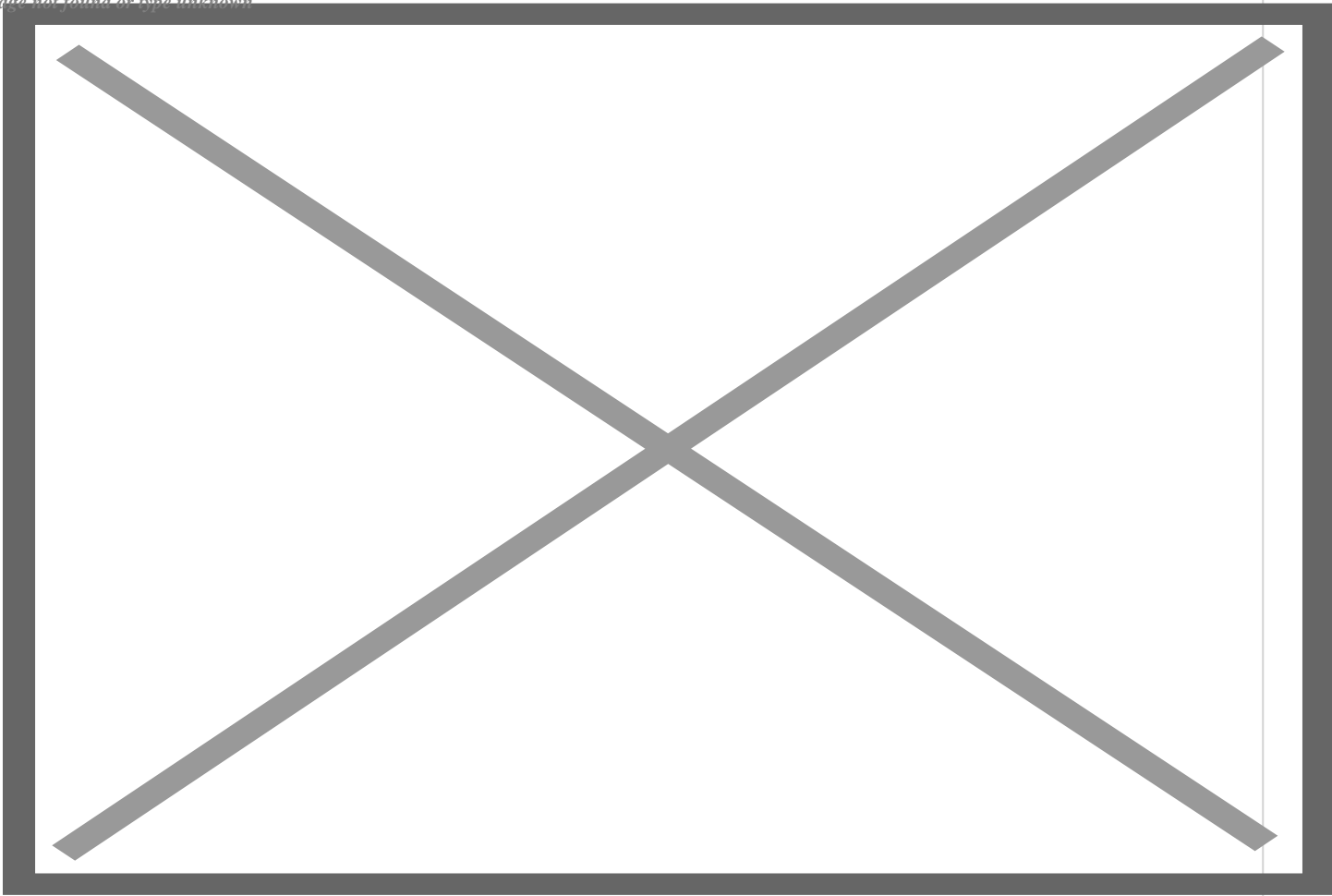


*Cuban Foreign Minister  
congratulates Maldivian  
counterpart on his Presidency of  
the UNGA*

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**Maldivian Foreign Minister, Abdulla Shahid, elected as President of the 76th United Nations General Assembly.**

Havana, Jun 7 (RHC)-- Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez congratulated on Monday his Maldivian counterpart, Abdulla Shahid, who was elected president of the 76th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The foreign minister conveyed on Twitter his warmest congratulations to the Maldivian diplomat, who prevailed over candidate Zalmay Rassoul, former foreign minister of Afghanistan.

In conformity with the system of geographical rotation established by the UNGA, the Presidency election for the seventy-sixth session corresponded to the Asia-Pacific group of countries.

On this occasion, and as established in resolution A/RES/71/323 entitled Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, each of the candidates had to present their strategic visions and hold interactive dialogues with the Member States.

These meetings were held from the beginning of May 2021.

This is the first time that the Maldives has presented a candidate for the Presidency of the General Assembly.

Among the elements that supported Abdulla Shahid's election were his commitment to multilateralism and his belief in the role of the United Nations as the forum par excellence for multilateral cooperation.

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