

Whereas Luis Almagro, a distinguished Uruguayan diplomat and politician, served as the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States (OAS) from May 2015 to May 2020, where he spearheaded efforts to promote democracy and human rights throughout the Western Hemisphere;

Whereas born on June 1, 1963, in Cerro Chato, Uruguay, Luis Almagro pursued his education in law at the University of the Republic in Montevideo, culminating in his achievement of a law degree;

Whereas Almagro's early career in public service in Uruguay saw him hold various significant positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and subsequently serving as Uruguay's Ambassador to China from 2007 to 2010 and as Ambassador to the Republic of Korea from 2010 to 2015;

Whereas in March 2015, Luis Almagro was democratically elected as the Secretary-General of the OAS, succeeding José Miguel Insulza, and officially assuming office on May 26, 2015, for a five-year term, during which he prioritized addressing issues such as human rights, democracy, corruption, and political crises across member states;

Whereas Almagro's tenure as Secretary-General was characterized by his dedication to modernizing the OAS and enhancing its efficacy in promoting democracy and human rights, advocating for reforms to improve the organization's responsiveness to member states' needs;

Whereas following the conclusion of his term as Secretary-General in May 2020, Luis Almagro remained actively engaged in international affairs and diplomacy, continuing to advocate for democracy, human rights, and regional stability in Latin America;

Whereas Luis Almagro's tenure as Secretary-General was met with both acclaim and criticism, with supporters lauding his efforts to promote democracy and human rights, while detractors accused him of bias and politicization of the organization;

Whereas as of the last update in January 2022, Luis Almagro's post-OAS career and contributions to Latin American politics and international diplomacy continue to unfold, cementing his status as a prominent figure in the region.

H.E. Amb. Luis Almagro Lemes was elected Secretary General of the Organization of American States since March 18, 2015. A career diplomat, Almagro was Foreign Minister of Uruguay from 2010 to March 1, 2015, and has extensive regional and international experience. In addition, he was elected Senator in the national elections in Uruguay in October 2014. Mr. Almagro was also Ambassador to China for five years, after occupying senior diplomatic posts in the Foreign Ministry of his country, and in the Embassies of Uruguay in Germany and Iran. In 2014, Foreign Policy magazine named him a Leading Global Thinker, one of ten decision-makers in the world who have been granted this international distinction. Almagro is a lawyer and speaks Spanish, English and French.