

José Alfonso Blanco Conde (Dominican Republic)

Ambassador Permanent Representative

Ambassador Blanco began his diplomatic career in 2001, when he was appointed First Secretary of the Embassy of the Dominican Republic to the United States. During his almost three-year tenure in that assignment, he worked in the areas of economic affairs and trade and served as liaison with the U.S. Congress and its representatives concerning matters of interest to the Dominican Republic. He also participated in the negotiations of the US-DR CAFTA Free Trade Agreement as part of the Dominican team that contributed to this important process.

After his initial experience at the bilateral level, he was transferred to the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations in New York, where he rose through all the diplomatic career ranks, from First Secretary to his current position as Ambassador, serving as Alternate Representative at this diplomatic headquarters.

At the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, he has specialized in multilateral diplomacy, which has led him to handle the issues of almost all the main committees of the United Nations General Assembly (2nd, 4th and 5th) and to represent the Dominican Republic in the ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council of the United Nations) during the Dominican Republic's 2010–2012 membership in that body, in its sessions in New York and in Geneva, Switzerland.

During the 2011 session and following the global financial crisis, Ambassador Blanco was appointed Chief Negotiator of UN General Assembly resolution [66/188](#), which called for greater regulation of financial markets and their link to excessive food price volatility. This resolution was promoted by the Dominican Republic and submitted by the Group of 77 and China, and was adopted by consensus in December 2011.

Ambassador Blanco was a member of the official delegation to the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2011 and 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland, and in 2017 in Cancun, Mexico, and the United Nations Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2016. He also served as head of the delegation to the OAS General Assembly held in 2019 in Medellín, Colombia.

He was part of the technical team for the promotion of the candidacy of the Dominican Republic as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, and later served as Coordinator of the Technical Unit for Security Council Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From 2017 to 2019, in addition to performing these duties, he was also appointed Acting Vice Minister for Bilateral Foreign Policy and was responsible for coordinating all matters pertaining to that role, including the Dominican Republic's agenda at the international level.

Following his recent appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations in August 2020, he served as Vice-President of the 76th session of the General Assembly and of the Peacebuilding Commission during 2021 and 2022. In 2021, he was the Facilitator for Thematic Consultation 4, entitled "Protecting our planet and being prepared for the future" in the intergovernmental consultations related to the Secretary-General's report on "Our Common Agenda" and also facilitated, together with the Philippines, the Political Declaration of the General Assembly on Human Trafficking. He served as the President of the Third Committee of the 77th session of the General Assembly.

Ambassador Blanco is a career diplomat, is bilingual in Spanish and English and holds a degree in business administration from Universidad Iberoamericana. He also

completed his master's and postgraduate studies at Strayer University and Georgetown University in the United States, respectively. He is married to María G. Cáceres, with whom he has two children: María José (16) and José Alejandro (12).

He is also the non-resident Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the governments of Iceland and Kenya.