



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
31 July 2019

Original: English

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## Seventy-third session

Agenda items 15 and 34

### Culture of peace

### Prevention of armed conflict

## **Letter dated 29 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to address you and take the opportunity of referring to the High-level Meeting of the Open-ended Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations, held on 21 July 2019 in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the margins of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement.

In this regard, I am pleased to transmit herewith a copy of the Joint Declaration adopted at that time (see annex), which remains open for signature by those delegations who share the values of diplomacy for peace and truly desire stability and prosperity for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its heroic people, in a demonstration of their full commitment to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and to the norms of international law.

I respectfully request that the present letter and its annex be circulated among the States Members of the Organization as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 15 and 34.

*(Signed)* Samuel **Moncada**  
Ambassador



## **Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

### **Joint Declaration**

We, representatives from the governments of Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Burundi, Bolivia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Iran, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Palestine, Russia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Turkey, and Zimbabwe, express our serious concern about the current situation affecting the friendly nation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its heroic people, as a result of, among others, external interference, which has had a direct impact on the economy of that nation and continues to hamper its regular access to the international financial system and trade markets, with negative effects, among others, on the full realization of their human rights, including their right to development.

We reaffirm our commitment to international law and to the Charter of the United Nations, particularly to Articles 1.2, 2.1, 2.4 and 2.7, on the principles of right to self-determination, sovereign equality of States, non-use or threat of use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respectively, and agree to:

1. Reiterate that it is only up to the Venezuelan People to sovereignly decide its own destiny and freely choose its political, economic, social and cultural system, without interference in any form by any other State, and within the framework of its National Constitution, in line with the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, as contained in General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXXV).

2. Reiterate our strong opposition at the illegal promulgation and implementation of unilateral coercive measures against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in violation of international law and the UN Charter, and demand their immediate lifting as a concrete means to assist in the alleviation of the current socio-economic challenges in the country, in line with the provisions of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 12 December 1974, as contained in resolution 3281 (XXIX).

3. Reiterate our strong concern and rejection at the public threats for a foreign military intervention in Venezuela, as well as other possible covert operations, all of which will further aggravate the situation on the ground and will also have a negative impact in a region that has been declared a Zone of Peace since 2014, including a possible increase in migration flows.

4. Reiterate our commitment, in strict line with the provisions of Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, to redoubling constructive efforts aimed at fostering a peaceful solution to the current situation in Venezuela, including through an inclusive process of political dialogue amongst Venezuelans, without preconditions, so that both Government and opposition can urgently agree on ways and means to address the pressing challenges that affect the wellbeing of the Venezuelan people as a whole. In this connection, we stress that initiatives such as the Montevideo Mechanism, the International Contact Group and the Oslo Dialogues must be encouraged and supported, while recognizing the role that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Holy See and other relevant international actors could play towards that end.

We call upon all responsible members of the international community who share the values of diplomacy for peace and truly desire stability and prosperity for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its heroic people, to join the present declaration.

Caracas, 21 July 2019

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