

"Decenio de la Igualdad de Oportunidades para Mujeres y Hombres" "Año de la lucha contra la corrupción y la impunidad"

LIMA GROUP DECLARATION

3 May 2019

The Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela, at the start of this decisive phase for the process to recover democracy and put an end to the usurpation.

- 1) Reaffirm their full support for the actions undertaken during the last few days by the Venezuelan people under the leadership of President in Charge Juan Guaidó in order to restore the rule of law in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in peace and in accordance with constitutional order, and encourage him to persevere in this resolve;
- 2) Strongly condemn the repression of the illegitimate and dictatorial regime of Nicolás Maduro, which has again caused many deaths and hundreds of wounded and detainees, deplore the designation of Gustavo Gonzáles López as the Head of the Bolivarian National Intelligence Service (SEBIN), who symbolizes the systematic violation of human rights perpetrated by the regime, adding to the presumed crimes against humanity already presented for consideration to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court:
- 3) Demand full respect for the life, integrity and freedom of all Venezuelans, of President in Charge Juan Guaidó, as well as the reestablishment of the political and constitutional rights of the Vice President of the National Assembly, Edgar Zambrano, and all its members, the leaders of Venezuelan democratic political forces and the immediate release of all political prisoners.
- 4) Call on the members of the Bolivarian National Armed Forces to comply with their constitutional mandate to serve their Nation and the members of the Supreme Court of Justice to cease their complicit support for the illegitimate regime;
- 5) Agree to propose to the International Contact Group an urgent meeting of representatives of both groups to seek convergence in the common purpose of achieving the return of democracy in Venezuela, and invite other members of the international community, committed to that purpose, to join efforts to achieve this goal.
- 6) Express their satisfaction for the decision to hold the International Conference for Democracy in Venezuela, in Lima, in July, with the participation of all those who support its democratic recovery.
- 7) Highlight Chile's holding of the democratic transitions seminar, in the month of June, with the participation of Venezuelan democratic leaders.
- 8) Urge the international community, the United Nations system and its Secretary General to take unequivocal measures of protection aimed at alleviating the consequences of the humanitarian crisis endured by Venezuelans, the exclusive responsibility of which resides in the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro.

- 9) Urge the international community and the United Nations system to increase cooperation for host countries in order to address the massive exodus of Venezuelans.
- 10) Reiterate their call to Russia, Turkey and all other countries that still support the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro to favor the process of democratic transition.
- 11) Undertake all necessary actions in order for Cuba to participate in the search for a solution in the Venezuelan crisis.
- 12) Decide to resort to international cooperation mechanisms to fight corruption, drug trafficking, money laundering, and similar offenses to tackle the perpetration of these type of crimes by members of the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro, including family members and their figureheads.
- 13) Reject the threat posed by Nicolás Maduro illegitimate regime's protection of terrorist groups that operate inside the Colombian territory, any attempt to destabilize Colombian institutions, threats against the life and integrity of President Iván Duque and the undermining of regional security.
- 14) Decide to remain in permanent session and hold the next meeting in the city of Guatemala.
- 15) Encourage the Venezuelan people to persevere in their fight to recover democracy, and acknowledge the courage and patriotism of the members of the Armed Force, who supported the President in Charge at this decisive phase.

OFICINA GENERAL DE COMUNICACIÓN MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES