

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT FOR THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AT THE 108th SESSION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Russian Federation categorically objects to the attempts made by the United States of America and a number of other countries to cast doubt upon the legitimacy of the authorities of the representatives of the lawful Government of Venezuela at the OPCW. These actions contradict the foundations of international law.

The OPCW is an international, inter-governmental organisation. Bilateral relations between States Parties should not be an item on the agenda for discussion. The recognition or non-recognition of the status of one State or another does not fall within the terms of reference of the Organisation.

The stated position of a number of States is nothing more than flagrant interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign State. We reject any actions aimed at destabilising the situation in Venezuela. It is unacceptable to stubbornly insist upon one's own politicised point of view, which will only lead to a deepened divide within the OPCW and serve as a distraction from the tasks at hand.

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