



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO
THE OPCW AT THE NINETY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
REGARDING THE ILLEGITIMACY OF THE MADURO REGIME
IN THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA**

More than 60 countries issued or joined statements from the European Union, Organization of American States (OAS), International Contact Group, and Lima Group condemning Maduro's 6 December 2020 fraudulent national assembly elections. The United States of America continues to recognise the interim president, Juan Guaidó as the legitimate president of Venezuela, in accordance with the Venezuelan constitution.

The Maduro regime is illegitimate and corrupt. It stole an election from the Venezuelan people. The regime bankrupted the country and forced millions of its citizens to flee. Maduro and his allies continue to deny Venezuelans the life-saving aid they so desperately need.

The United States of America and others around the world share a moral obligation to support the Venezuelan people as they strive to restore their democracy, and to respect their constitution and their sovereignty. This is why we must support interim president Juan Guaidó and his government.

The members of the fraudulent Venezuelan delegation here today represent the illegitimate Maduro regime. They are not speaking on behalf of the Venezuelan people.

We look forward to collaborating in the future with a delegation that represents a transitional and ultimately legitimately elected government of Venezuela.

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