



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Ninety-Sixth Session

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ENGLISH only

**CUBA**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR SORAYA ÁLVAREZ NÚÑEZ  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE OPCW  
AT THE NINETY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
REGARDING STATEMENTS ON THE LEGITIMACY OF THE REPRESENTATION  
OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE OPCW**

The delegation of the Republic of Cuba voices its support for the legitimate representation of the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OPCW and its Permanent Representative H.E. Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah in accordance with the principle of State sovereignty and non-interference in their internal affairs.

The Permanent Representation of the Republic of Cuba to the OPCW categorically rejects the continued attempts to use the Organisation to impose political agendas that have no relation whatsoever with the purposes of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Executive Council's agenda.

These attempts represent an unnecessary and negative precedent that will only serve to further polarisation of the work of the OPCW and represent an offence against multilateralism. The legitimate Government of Venezuela, which is recognised internationally and in the United Nations, is the one headed by H.E. President Nicolás Maduro Moros, who was constitutionally elected on 20 May 2018.

Cuba will continue to defend the mandate of the OPCW, peace, multilateralism, and the sovereign equality of all States.

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba to the OPCW requests that this statement be considered an official document of the Ninety-Sixth Session of the Executive Council and published both on the Organisation's external server and its public website.

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