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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE OPCW AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION REGARDING THE ILLEGITIMACY OF THE MADURO REGIME IN VENEZUELA

The members of the Venezuelan delegation here today do not represent the Government of Venezuela. They are not speaking on behalf of the Venezuelan people. The United States continues to recognise the legal authority of the democratically elected 2015 National Assembly. The Maduro regime's repression, corruption, and mismanagement have left seven million people in Venezuela in need of humanitarian aid and created one of the worst economic, human rights, and migration crises outside of a war in modern history.

The United States and others around the world share a moral obligation to support the Venezuelan people. The United States welcomes continued international cooperation to develop practical and effective solutions to bring an end to the crises in Venezuela and alleviate the suffering of the Venezuelan people, including the millions who have fled Venezuela.

We look forward to collaborating in the future following free and fair elections in Venezuela.

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