



**VENEZUELA**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HAIFA AISSAMI MADAH  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC  
OF VENEZUELA TO THE OPCW IN RESPONSE TO THE STATEMENT  
BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU**

**UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5 OF THE NINETIETH SESSION  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Madam Chairperson,

The statement by the delegation of the Republic of Peru on behalf of the self-declared Lima Group of countries was made in clear violation of the principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and diplomatic practices.

Regrettably, we are once again bearing witness to how a group of countries—and in this case, it is even more painful, as these are our brother countries—are making a game of the imperialist pretensions of the Government of the United States of America, echoing the infamous campaign against a sovereign country in order to justify the intent to appropriate our natural resources by force, as has been alleged by other respectable delegations in this room, using a military intervention for that purpose, as the spokespeople for that Government have publicly announced without any qualms whatsoever.

It is unacceptable that the distinguished delegation of Peru—whose Head of State, it stands to recall, was not elected by anyone and is holding the presidency as a legal attribution, as its elected Head of State was removed—dares question the legitimacy of the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro Moros, elected by over 67% of the votes in the elections that were held in May 2018.

We regret that was used as a pretext to attempt to distract attention from the issues that are the focus of this forum; but we do not have any option other than to denounce these claims to the world as many times as necessary.

Finally, I would like to request that this statement be considered an official document of the Ninetieth Session of the Executive Council and that it be published on the Organisation's webpage and external server.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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