



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**STATEMENT REGARDING THE ILLEGITMACY OF THE MADURO REGIME
IN VENEZUELA BY H.E. AMBASSADOR KENNETH D. WARD PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE OPCW
AT THE NINETY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairman,

The United States joins more than 50 nations in recognising interim president Juan Guaidó as the legitimate president of Venezuela, in accordance with the Venezuelan constitution. The Maduro regime is illegitimate and stole an election from the Venezuelan people. The regime has bankrupted the country and forced millions of its citizens to flee the country. Maduro continues 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 Venezuela 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.

Mr. Chairman,

The United States associates itself with the statement of the Lima Group.

I request that this statement be designated an official document of this Executive Council session and posted on both the OPCW external server and the public website.

Thank you.

--- 0 ---

