CUBA

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE OPCW IN SUPPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS OF THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES

The Cuban delegation categorically rejects the continued attempts to use the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to move the discussion to issues that have no connection whatsoever with the Chemical Weapons Convention, with the object and purpose of the Organisation, nor with the agenda of the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

The Cuban delegation additionally underscores and rejects the attempts made to have discussions that have broken into other forums considered at this Organisation via the circulation of documents that make no contribution to its work. This represents an unnecessary and negative precedent that will only serve to further polarise the work of the Organisation, and an offence against multilateralism, which is one of the basic, fundamental principles of peaceful relations for international harmony.

The Cuban delegation reiterates its firm and invariable solidarity with the constitutional President Nicolás Maduro Moros, who was elected by popular vote in line with the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The only legal and legitimate representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OPCW is that which is exercised by its Permanent Representative, H.E. Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah, and the members of her delegation.

Cuba continues 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 Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties and published both on the Organisation's external server and its public website.

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