



República de Cuba

Cuba: Statement by H.E. Mrs. Soraya Alvarez Núñez Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba to the OPCW at Ninety –Sixth Session of the Executive Council on the attempts by certain States to challenge the legitimate representation of the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OPCW.

The Cuban delegation 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 Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to impose political agendas that have no relation whatsoever with the purposes of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Council's agenda.

These attempts represent an unnecessary and negative precedent that will only serve to further polarization of the work of the OPCW, and represent an offence against multilateralism. The legitimate Government of Venezuela, which is recognized internationally and in the United Nations, is the one headed by H.E. President Nicolás Maduro Moros, who was constitutionally elected on 20th 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-Fifth Session of the Executive Council and published both on the Organization's external server and its public website.