

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE OPCW
AT THE NINETY-EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
REGARDING THE ILLEGITMACY OF THE MADURO REGIME IN VENEZUELA**

The members of the fraudulent Venezuelan delegation here today do not represent the legitimate Government of Venezuela. They are not speaking on behalf of the Venezuelan people.

The United States continues to recognize the legal authority of the democratically elected 2015 National Assembly and the person chosen by this National Assembly to be its president as the constitutional interim President of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó. 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 with a delegation that represents a government legitimately elected by the people of Venezuela.