



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Ninety-Sixth Session

9 – 12 March 2021

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9 March 2021

ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN  
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AT THE NINETY-SIXTH SESSION  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Russian Federation categorically objects to the attempts made by the United States of America and a number of other countries to cast doubt upon the legitimacy of the authorities of the representatives of the lawful Government of Venezuela at the OPCW. These actions contradict the foundations of international law.

The OPCW is an international, inter-governmental organisation. Bilateral relations between States Parties should not be an item on the agenda for discussion. The recognition or non-recognition of the status of one State or another does not fall within the authorities of the Organisation.

The stated position of a number of States is nothing more than flagrant interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign State. We reject any actions aimed at destabilising the situation in Venezuela. It is unacceptable to stubbornly insist upon one's own politicised point of view, which will only lead to a deepened divide within the OPCW and serve as a distraction from the tasks at hand.

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