FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OEA/Ser.P

October 20 and 21, 2020 AG/doc.5712/20 rev. 1

Washington, D.C., United States of America 22 October 2020

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RESOLUTION

THE LACK OF MINIMUM DEMOCRATIC CONDITIONS TO GUARANTEE FREE, FAIR, AND TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS IN THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA[[1]](#footnote-1)/[[2]](#footnote-2)/[[3]](#footnote-3)/[[4]](#footnote-4)/[[5]](#footnote-5)/

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on October 21, 2020)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

 RECALLING the Inter-American Democratic Charter, General Assembly resolution AG/RES. 2944 (XLIX-O/19), and Permanent Council resolutions CP/RES. 1156 (2291/20), CP/RES. 1143 (2269/20), and CP/RES. 1117 (2200/19);

 HIGHLIGHTING the continuing deterioration of political, social, economic, and humanitarian conditions in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, exacerbated by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic;

 AFFIRMING its profound concern at and rejection of the maneuvers to secure control by the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro, which has taken essential democratic institutions captive, undermining the separation and independence of the branches of government, in serious violation of the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Inter-American Democratic Charter;

 BEARING IN MIND that the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continues to be the only legitimate and democratically elected institution in Venezuela; and,

 EXPRESSING, with serious concern, that the actions carried out by Nicolás Maduro’s illegitimate regime violate national laws, undermining the electoral process and threatening to eliminate the legitimate National Assembly, the last democratic and institutional venue through which the demands of Venezuelan society can be channeled and find a voice,

RESOLVES:

1. To condemn, in the most implacable terms, the actions of the illegitimate regime of Nicolás Maduro that undermine the democratic system and the separation of powers through the control of the Supreme Court of Justice and by usurping the constitutional functions of the National Assembly to, *inter alia*, legislate on electoral matters and appoint the members of the National Electoral Council. This clearly compromises the minimum conditions for guaranteeing the organization of democratic electoral processes in keeping with international standards.
2. To declare that its recognition of the elections to the National Assembly of Venezuela will depend on the existence of the necessary conditions of freedom, justice, impartiality, and transparency, with guarantees for the participation of all political actors and citizens and the release of political prisoners, under reasonable deadlines for their organization, and with independent and credible international electoral observation.
3. To welcome the publication, on September 16, 2020, of the report of the United Nations Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and to reaffirm the importance of the immediate and complete implementation of the recommendations contained therein, including the investigation of human rights violations and the cessation of the use of excessive force, extrajudicial executions, forced disappearances, arbitrary detention, and torture.
4. To make an unhesitating call for the members of the legitimate National Assembly to receive protection, and to demand the prompt release of all political prisoners and the closure of their judicial processes, an end to arbitrary arrests, detentions, and harassment of citizens, and that permission be given for the safe return of those members of the opposition who are in exile.
5. To demand full and unhindered access to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable and crisis-affected populations in Venezuela, in accordance with established humanitarian principles.
6. To reject interference in the functioning of political parties by the illegitimate Maduro regime, which seeks to undermine the independence and plurality of political parties and organizations, which are essential elements of representative democracy, as established by Article 3 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.
7. To urge the calling, as promptly as possible, of free, fair, transparent, and legitimate presidential elections, with independent and credible international observers, to lead to the appointment of a democratically elected government in accordance with the will of the Venezuelan people.
8. To reaffirm the legitimacy of the democratically elected National Assembly, as well as to strengthen support for democratic actors in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in their efforts toward the peaceful restoration of democracy, in accordance with the Constitution of Venezuela.
9. To request that the Secretary General present periodic reports on the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and on compliance with this resolution and other resolutions on the subject to the Permanent Council, with the pertinent recommendations.
10. To request the Secretary General’s good offices in coordinating with the relevant international organizations in order to formulate recommendations for member states on possible actions and initiatives in support of the efforts of the Venezuelan people toward the restoration of democracy in Venezuela.
11. To reiterate the member states’ acceptance of the Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States appointed by the Venezuelan National Assembly, until the holding of new free and fair presidential elections that lead to the appointment of a democratically elected government, as established in resolution AG/RES. 2944 of 2019.[[6]](#footnote-6)/

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1. . Antigua and Barbuda will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . Dominica will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. . Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. . Trinidad and Tobago will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. . Nicaragua will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. . The Dominican Republic will present a footnote. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)