



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

# Communiqué

The President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro Moros, on behalf of the Venezuelan people and government celebrates along with the Cuban people and government the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Granma vessel's arriving at the Eastern coast of Cuba.

He also commemorates the 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, which are prepared to ensure the performance of its mission in favour of peace and the defense of sovereignty. Such events marked the beginning, consolidation and victory of the revolutionary struggle against the tyranny of Fulgencio Batista.

The brotherly people of Cuba has always been an example of courage and fortitude, as well as it has been the heroic *CRAF* and its role as a first-line defensive element to ensure the autonomy of the Cuban Homeland, without foreign tutelage or intrusion from imperial forces, which seeks to undermine its independence.

The people and government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela express their highest appreciation for the liberator role that characterizes the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, and they share with the Cuban people and government its joy after one more year of the arrival of Commander Fidel Castro to Cuba and the genesis of its liberation.

***“Cuba is a bastion of Latin American dignity and we must see it, follow it and nourish it as such”***

***-Hugo Chavez Frias-***

Caracas, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017