



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Communiqué

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela hereby informs that it has taken note of the position assumed by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), in relation to the claim of Venezuela's legitimate rights over the territory of Guayana Esequiba, as well as the initiative of the National Assembly to hold a popular consultation on this matter, within the framework of its constitutional attributions.

Venezuela maintains that its historical rights over the Guayana Esequiba are fully documented. For this reason, at the time of Guyana's declaration of independence, Venezuela clearly indicated that its recognition of the new nation was limited to the territory located on the right bank of the Essequibo River, thus clearly establishing that Venezuela reserved its territorial sovereignty rights over the entire area located on the left bank of the Essequibo River.

Nevertheless, despite the fact that Guyana's territorial limits have since been well established, the government of Guyana has intended to take possession of a territory over which it has no title, nor can it show legal sources to support its claims and has therefore been unilaterally disposing of this territory and making abusive use of it.



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This practice constitutes a permanent violation of the mandate contained in the Geneva Agreement, in addition to the recent intention of making use of the territorial sea contiguous to the area under claim, even though delimitation is still pending, a practice that undoubtedly constitutes a violation of international law.

The territorial controversy between Venezuela and Guyana must be resolved amicably, in a manner acceptable to both parties.

Venezuela's historical position for several decades has been that the International Court of Justice will never reach an equitable solution, such as the one contemplated in the 1966 Geneva Agreement, turning it into the only valid instrument to achieve a solution.

The President of Guyana, Irfaan Ali, refuses to dialogue and places the United States Southern Command at the head of his attack against Venezuela. The position of the Caribbean Community should be to promote and facilitate a direct dialogue between the parties, which will return Guyana to the path of respect for Public International Law, through the promotion of a peaceful and diplomatic route to address the territorial controversy.



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Likewise, Venezuela aspires that CARICOM plays a constructive role in the face of threats by Guyana -in coalition with the United States Southern Command- to promote a military aggression against Venezuela.

Venezuela has been, is and will continue to be a nation of peace, as it has demonstrated throughout its history.

Caracas, October 26, 2023