



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Communiqué

Venezuela submits preliminary objections to the admissibility of Guyana's unilateral claim

The government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in order to defend the highest interests of the Republic and its territorial integrity, informs the Venezuelan people that on June 7, 2022, in accordance with the applicable regulations, the Republic has been compelled to present preliminary objections to the admission of the unilateral claim of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana against Venezuela before the International Court of Justice.

The purpose of this preliminary objection is to defend the rights and interests of the Republic, and aims to ensure that this claim is not admitted as it lacks essential elements to constitute due process.

Venezuela's position has been, and will continue to be, its unavoidable adherence to the Geneva Agreement of 1966 and its confidence on direct negotiations as mandated by this legal instrument whose meaning, purpose and reason is none other than to reach a practical and acceptable settlement for the Parties in an amicable manner.

Venezuela rejects the instrumentalization of the International Court of Justice to settle a dispute that demands a negotiated solution, without detriment to the due respect for this instance as the main judicial organ of the United Nations.

However, we are obliged to point out, without any doubt, that the course of the procedure which has been followed from Guyana's unilateral claim, as well as the decision dated December 18, 2020 in which, against all precedent, the Court assumes jurisdiction to pronounce on "the validity of the arbitral award of 1899", a matter that had already been overcome and which was artificially proposed in Guyana's unilateral claim, seeking to rid itself of the commitment to negotiate, to which it is obliged under the Geneva Agreement.



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Venezuela hopes that the matter will immediately return to the field of friendly negotiation between the parties and to the correct application of the Geneva Agreement to settle the territorial dispute that justified its subscription.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela calls upon all the Venezuelan people to come together defense of the historical and territorial legacy of our Father Liberator Simón Bolívar and in compliance with the constitutional values of peace, integrity and sovereignty in the strictest respect for International Law.

Caracas, June 8, 2022