

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

## Communiqué

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela informs the national and international community that it received a notification from the sovereign National Constituent Assembly by which this august plenipotentiary organ, invested by the original power of the Venezuelan people, decided to declare, after the systematic acts of interference in the internal affairs of Venezuela, persona non grata the Ambassador of the Republic of Brazil, Rui Carlos Pereira, and the Chargé d'Affaires of Canada, Craig Kowalik, last December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.

In this regard, the National Constituent Assembly sent several communications to the embassies of Brazil and Canada, whose governments attacked the measure, even before receiving the written notification, and decided in consequence to apply reciprocity against Venezuelan diplomatic officials in those countries.

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela regards as a good sign the unequivocal compliance of the measure by the governments of Brazil and Canada, which finally show signs of recognition and respect for the Venezuelan institutions and, particularly, the plenipotentiary nature of the sovereign National Constituent Assembly.

Likewise, the Bolivarian Government of Venezuela reaffirms that it has always respected the internal affairs of Brazil and Canada, the disciplined behavior that characterizes all the Venezuelan diplomats. In this sense, it values the reciprocity applied by both countries as an unjustified measure.

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expresses its unwavering subordination to the decisions of the sovereign National Constituent Assembly as an expression of the original power of the Venezuelan people.

## Caracas, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.