

## Communiqué

The President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro Moros, on behalf of the Venezuelan Government and People, celebrates the 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Venezuela and the Dominican Republic.

This is an appropriate occasion to ratify our gratitude to the Dominican Republic for its praiseworthy mediating role in the political dialog for our country, including its willingness to continue working to deepen cooperation in all the fields, especially in the field of energy through Petrocaribe, as well as materializing the ideals of cultural diversity and regional integration through the accord of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), with a view to a balanced and democratic regional integration, respecting the differences and asymmetries of our peoples, and even deepening the bonds of fraternity and friendship.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reiterates the importance of the anniversary of the establishment of bilateral relations between our nations, and we highlight the ongoing dynamic relation of economic, trade, political and cultural exchange that has been strengthened over the last years by the Bolivarian Revolution, thanks to the conviction and commitment of Commander Hugo Chavez to rescue and consolidate integration in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Caracas, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018