



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Communiqué

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela rejects the recent statement attributable to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, regarding the territorial controversy with the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, which can only be defined as illegal and biased, seeking to force the Venezuelan State to recognize the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Any mechanism defined to deal with the territorial controversy between Venezuela and Guyana must have the express consent of both countries. This tenet is well known by the Secretary General, who has altered the commitments signed, taking a decision that favors - in advance - Guyana, and that, in fact, protects the interests of the Exxon Mobil oil company and of the United States of America.

The Secretary-General is reminded that Venezuela is one of the 119 countries that do not recognize the compulsory jurisdiction of the ICJ, including Guyana, the de facto occupier of the Esequibo territory. This position has been expressly stated by Venezuela on



Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Communiqué

12 occasions before the United Nations.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela hopes that Secretary-General António Guterres will correct this wrong step and return to the path of International Law, applying the tenets of the Geneva Agreement of 1966, which is law between the parties and clearly establishes the steps to be followed for a definitive settlement.

Caracas, 6 December, 2023