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**ALBA Nations Urge Barack Obama to Repeal Executive Order against Venezuela**

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19/03/2015



During an extraordinary summit of the regional integration bloc, held in Caracas on Tuesday, Venezuelan president Nicolas Maduro read the Declaration of Caracas, the final document of the meeting approved by all ALBA member nations.

The ALBA countries reject Washington's executive order that declares Venezuela a threat to US national security, since they consider it interference with the internal affairs and with the principle of sovereignty and non-intervention, Maduro said.

The ALBA countries ask the United States to abstain from the use of coercive and unilateral steps that damage international law, he added.

The regional bloc also calls for dialog as an alternative to the conflict and confrontation, as the declaration noted and added that Venezuela does not represent any threat since it is a supportive country that has proven its willingness for cooperation as a guarantee to social peace and stability in the continent, the document stressed.

US harassment and aggression would only encourage violence by some local rightist sectors, according to the declaration, which also denounces the ferocious media campaign unleashed against Venezuela with the aim of discrediting the Bolivarian Revolution.

The regional bloc called for a group of facilitators from the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and the

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to develop a peace diplomacy initiative and called on social, student, farmer, indigenous and women movements to take action in support of Caracas.

The ALBA will continue to promote unity, integration, solidarity, peaceful coexistence and the construction of a world of peace, Maduro stressed.

At the end of the summit, the bloc expressed its support to the government led by Dilma Rousseff in Brazil and to Cristina Fernandez in Argentina, which are facing discrediting campaigns.

The Declaration of Caracas noted that Latin America and the Caribbean constitute a zone of peace aimed at achieving the happiness of the people and calls for a new diplomacy built from the South.

Edited by Ivan Martínez

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