



**THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JORGE VALERO, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

“MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM”

SIXTH COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 6, 2010

Mr. President,

Our first words are addressed to the officers, led by you, to express my delegation's appreciation for the work being done at the forefront of these deliberations.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela aligns itself with the declarations made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and Chile, on behalf of the Rio Group.

I

Mr. President,

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers that the fight against terrorism must be firm and transparent and conducted under the principle of mutual cooperation, in conformity with international conventions and national and international laws governing the matter. My country complies with the obligations established within them, and carries out legislative reforms to ensure an effective fight against this phenomenon.

The Global Strategy of the United Nations against terrorism, adopted in September 2006, is an important tool in this fight. This strategy will not be effective unless the right

measures are taken to address the root causes that can lead to terrorism, including poverty, injustice, social and economic inequalities, and political, racial and religious intolerance, among others.

No government should allow its territory to be used or provide financial support to individuals or groups who are planning, training or carrying out terrorist acts aimed at destabilizing other governments or causing human casualties.

The United Nations should promote cooperation between States to ensure the timely and effective punishment of those responsible for terrorist acts, be they individuals, groups or States that carry them out.

My delegation wishes to recall that a relevant international law exists, including resolution 1373 (2001) of the United Nations, which stipulates that States must ensure that the perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stresses the need for States to fulfill their previously established commitments and suppress in their territory all terrorist operatives.

II

Mr. President,

Today it's the thirty-fourth anniversary of the first and most deadly act of airline terrorism in the Western Hemisphere, lived before September 11, 2001. On October 6, 1976, a Cubana Aviation airliner was brought down over the waters of Barbados, killing seventy-three people. This vicious act of terrorism was planned and executed by the convicted and confessed terrorist Luis Posada Carriles.

On May 13, 2005, via Diplomatic Note No. DE-1077, the Embassy of Venezuela to the White House, requested for the State Department to preventively arrest Posada Carriles with a view to extradite. The request was based on the 1923 Extradition Treaty between Venezuela and the United States, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal Convention) and the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings.

Until now the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles is still free on the streets of Miami in Florida. Venezuela's government again urges the U.S. to either prosecute this most notable terrorist in the hemisphere in its territory or extradite him to Venezuela.

We also would like to refer to the case of convicted terrorist José Raúl Díaz Peña, convicted by the Venezuelan justice system to nine years and four months in prison for being involved in the terrorist acts of February 25, 2003 against the consulate of Colombia and Spain in Caracas. This terrorist escaped from Venezuela and, despite his conviction, was granted a visa and entered the United States under circumstances that have not been clarified.

The Venezuelan terrorists José Antonio Colina and Germain Pulido López Valera, are persecuted for the same crimes. They have a warrant, however, and despite the request for provisional arrest for extradition made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on March 16, 2004, both individuals have found asylum in the United States.

Our country is concerned that the United States is becoming a haven for known terrorists that are required in court in Venezuela.

III

Mr. President,

It is necessary to reach a consensus for a legal instrument that provides a framework to combat terrorism effectively. This instrument should look at the acts, methods and practices - in all their manifestations - including state terrorism.

My country considers deplorable the attempts made to justify state terrorism, misusing the use of self-defense of Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

This expression of terrorism attacks the sovereignty of nations, overturns the basis of civilization and threatens world peace. Produces genocides which affect unarmed populations and immensely violates human rights. Those responsible must be brought before the the International Criminal Court.

The definition of "terrorism" implies a challenge, because the international community should strike a balance between the right of peoples to struggle against domination and foreign occupation and achieving a society where justice and peace prevails.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers that the respect for the principles of sovereign equality of States, of non-intervention in their internal affairs, and equal rights and self determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, is the foundation for peaceful coexistence among nations.