



July 17, 2015

Mr.
Nicolás Maduro Moros
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Miraflores Palace
Caracas.

Mr. President,

The Ibero-American ex-presidents signatories of the Declaration of Panama (April 9, 2015) and the Declaration of Caracas (May 29, 2015), by this letter, express our satisfaction with the call made by the National Electoral Council of Venezuela (CNE in Spanish) for holding elections to the National Assembly on 6 December. Respect to the constitutional mandate is not only essential to the functioning of democracy and the rule of law. Furthermore, in the case of Venezuela, it is the only way to resolve the serious political and social disagreements that divide the country and encourage violence.

We believe that full democracy is essential to ensure the freedom and fundamental rights of people, and knowing the serious political, economic and rights restrictions affecting Venezuela crisis, we demand, as stated in the Declaration of Panamá, that the upcoming elections are free, fair and impartial. Based on our recognized democratic trajectories, we express our willingness to work as observers for these elections are held in a climate of trust and full

transparency to allow not only the doubts of the international community, but above all, ease the severe crisis in the Venezuelan people, the last custodian of national sovereignty.

In order that the election could be recognized as fair, free and competitive, we consider some essential preconditions as follows:

1. The absolute impartiality of the Electoral Branch and verification by independent observers that the electronic technology used in the electoral process is inviolable.

2. The presence in public debate of all political actors, including those who are detained, threatened their freedom or physical integrity every day, or are disabled by administrative authorities, as in the case of the Metropolitan Mayor of Caracas, Antonio Ledezma, Leopoldo López, the former mayor of San Cristóbal, Daniel Ceballos, the former mayor of San Diego, Enzo Scarano, and the Member of Parliament María Corina Machado.

3. Respect freedom of expression and allow the press the free exercise as is the right to information of citizens, fundamental to any democratic society. We ask for the immediate end to the judicial threats they receive numerous journalists and media as El Nacional, Tal Cual or La Patilla, and that all restrictions imposed by political power that prevent the full operation of free press.

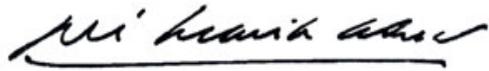
You have the responsibility and the ability to correct these serious problems, which would lead to widespread recognition that the elections were held in a truly democratic environment.

We reiterate our willingness to act as observers during the upcoming electoral process and requested that, in the same way, be allowed to join the process impartial electoral observation missions of the European Union (EU) and the Organization of American States (OAS).

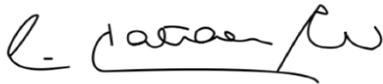
With best wishes for you and for Venezuela,

Sincerely,

Nicolás Ardito-Barletta, Panamá
Oscar Arias, Costa Rica
José María Aznar, España
Belisario Betancur, Colombia
Armando Calderón Sol, El Salvador
Felipe Calderón, México
Rafael Ángel Calderón, Costa Rica
Laura Chinchilla Miranda, Costa Rica
Alfredo Cristiani, El Salvador
Sixto Durán Ballén, Ecuador
Vicente Fox, México
Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, Chile
Lucio Gutiérrez, Ecuador
Osvaldo Hurtado L., Ecuador
Luis Alberto Lacalle H., Uruguay
Ricardo Lagos, Chile
Ricardo Martinelli, Panamá
Luis Alberto Monge, Costa Rica
Mireya Moscoso, Panamá
Gustavo Noboa, Ecuador
Andrés Pastrana, Colombia
Sebastián Piñera, Chile
Jorge Quiroga, Bolivia
Miguel Ángel Rodríguez, Costa Rica
Julio María Sanguinetti, Uruguay
Alejandro Toledo, Perú
Álvaro Uribe, Colombia
Juan Carlos Wasmosy, Paraguay



José María Aznar



Andrés Pastrana



Jorge Quiroga