

BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

The President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro, had a phone conversation with the new Secretary General of the United Nations, former Prime Minister of the Portuguese Republic, Antonio Guterres. The Venezuelan President extended, on behalf of the People and the Venezuelan government, its warmest and fraternal congratulations to the latter on his election as Secretary General for the period 2017-2021.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela avails itself of this opportunity to renew, its full commitment and support to the three pillars of the Organization: Peace, Security, Human Rights and Development, as a founding member of this multilateral forum and fierce promoter of strengthening multilateralism and building a multipolar and multicultural world, based on solidarity, social justice, complementarity and integration of peoples.

The Venezuelan government is convinced that the Lord Guterres, who conveys his best wishes, possess professional credentials, diplomatic skills, and understanding of international politics, to address the pressing challenges currently facing the multilateral system, which suffers the ravages of unilateralism, violence, terrorism, imperial expansion and increase in animosity among world powers.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, avails itself of this opportunity to Mr. Guterres of its willingness to support your management, not only in Venezuela, but also from its seat as the presidency of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in favor of the interests of South people and building a world where peace prevails and development; a more just and equal world; a world

where the fraternal friendship and solidarity is a reality to consolidate a multipolar, multiculture world in harmony with the Universe.

Caracas, October 13, 2016