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Joint Statement

Stop the Threat Against Venezuela Now!

Friday 30 July 2010, by <u>ANTUF</u>, <u>CPI (ML) Liberation</u>, <u>KPRM-PRD</u>, <u>LPP</u>, <u>NTUF</u>, <u>Partido Manggagawa</u>, <u>Perempuan Mahardhika</u>, <u>PLM</u>, <u>PRD</u>, <u>PRP</u>, <u>PSM (Malaysia)</u>, <u>PVSN</u>, <u>Socialist Alliance (Australia)</u>, <u>Socialist Worker (NZ)</u> (Date first published: 30 July 2010).

The people of Venezuela and the Bolivarian Revolution are facing imminent threat of military attack from the US and its ally. PSM together with PRP in Indonesia and Socialist Alliance have taken this initiative to call for a joint statement of progressive organisations and political parties to denouce the plan to attack Venezuela and lend our solidarity to the people of Venezuela.

We hope your organisation can support this initiative by endorsing the joint statement. Any organisation wish to endorse the statement, please e-mail us at int.psm gmail.com and we will include the name of your organisation in the signatories list.

In solidarity, Choo Chon Kai International Bureau PSM

[This joint statement is initiated by Parti Sosialis Malaysia (PSM), Working People's Association (PRP), Indonesia and Socialist Alliance, Australia.]

Stop the Threat Against Venezuela Now!

We, the undersigned organizations, view with serious concern the possibility of military aggression towards the people of Venezuela by the Colombian Government, which could be supported by the United State of America using its seven military bases recently installed in Colombia.

This matter has arisen from the recent events when the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was accused on 22 July 2010 at the Extraordinary Session of the Organization of American States in Washington by the Colombian Government of promoting, supporting and maintaining a relationship with armed organizations from Colombia, such as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and National Liberation Army (ELN). The accusations were only based on images which have never been substantiated or subjected to verification.

These current moves by the right-wing Colombian government are clearly an attempt backed by the US to justify a pre-emptive attack on Venezuela and its people. There has been a pattern of false allegations against Hugo Chavez's government in recent years as part of US-backed campaign to dismantle the revolutionary process taking place in Venezuela.

Since the election of President Hugo Chavez in 1998 and the beginning of Bolivarian revolutionary process, Venezuela has posed a great challenge to the US imperialist domination in Latin America as well as capitalist establishment in the region. The revolutionary process - with a popular democratic participation in Venezuela carrying the banner of "Socialism in the 21st Century" - has been an inspiration to people around the world seeking alternatives to neoliberal capitalist world order.

Considering the historical interference of the United States in internal matters of other countries and regions, such as in Iran and the Korean Peninsula, we are fearful that the US may exploit the current Venezuela-Colombia crisis as an entry point to carry out military aggression against Venezuela as it has done many times elsewhere in the past. The attack on Venezuela has the aim to crush the revolutionary process taking place in Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and Nicaragua, and to re-enact US imperial doctrine in the region. We are very aware of the potential impact that these negative actions could have on the Venezuelan people and its ongoing revolutionary process and on the international community.

As these apprehensions are very real, we would like to expresses our continuous support to the democratic and peaceful revolutionary process in Venezuela and we would like to extent our solidarity to the people of Venezuela who are striving to build a better world.

We call upon:

- the Colombian government to stop its constant lies, malicious allegations and threats against Venezuela and engage with Venezuela to resolve the crisis with peaceful diplomatic means in order to rebuild its relations with the rest of the region;
- the US government to shut down all its military bases and installations in Latin America as well as other parts of the world;
- all governments with conscience to fully support the Venezuelan government's insistence on its right to sovereignty and strongly denounce any US-backed military action against the people of Venezuela.
- all people and organizations that support social justice and genuine democracy to support any solidarity action that may needed to defend Venezuela and the revolution in Venezuela against constant military threats..

Signed by:

Australia:

Socialist Alliance

India:

Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation

Indonesia:

People's Democratic Party (PRD)
Political Committee of the Poor People's Democratic Party (KPRM-PRD)
Women Mahardhika
Working People's Association (PRP)

Malaysia:

Parti Sosialis Malaysia (PSM)

Nepal:

All Nepal Federation of Trade Unions (ANTUF)

New Zeland:

Socialist Worker

Pakistan:

Labour Party Pakistan (LPP) National Trade Union Federation

Philippines:

Party of the Labouring Masses (PLM) Philippines-Venezuela Solidarity Network Labor Party (Partido ng Manggagawa)