## DECLARATION 25TH ALBA-TCP POLITICAL COUNCIL

Casa "Antonio José de Sucre", Caracas, Venezuela

The 25th Political Council of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America - Peoples' Trade Treaty (ALBA-TCP) is taking place in a geopolitical context in which imperialism, through manipulation, disinformation, lies, blackmail and threats, imposes unilateral coercive measures to subvert the constitutional order of other countries, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and International Law.

In light of this scenario, the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean have an obligation to safeguard economic stability, the libertarian ideology of our founding fathers, and the sovereignty, independence and self-determination of our peoples.

Therefore, we, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ALBA-TCP member countries, met to "analyze the challenges of the current geopolitical situation and build a political road map for the upcoming international and multilateral meetings to ratify our commitment to the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace", and, in that sense:

- 1. Reaffirm our commitment to the premises of the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace, conceived on the basis of respect for the norms of International Law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to promote friendly and cooperative relations, the peaceful settlement of disputes, strict compliance with the commitment of non-intervention, directly or indirectly, in the internal affairs of any State, to foster a culture of peace, and to promote nuclear disarmament as a priority goal.
- 2. Reject and denounce the criminalization of the migration phenomenon and, therefore, the massive deportations and inhumane treatment of migrants by the U.S. government, which is primarily responsible for the migration of thousands of people due to the imposition of unilateral coercive measures resulting in instability in different regions of the world, and forcing a change in the policies of legitimately free, sovereign and independent States.

- 3. Reject the U.S. policy of turning third countries in Latin America and the Caribbean into migrant receiving and deportation centers, undermining their sovereignty and raising concerns in the international community about the impact on the human rights of migrants.
  - 4. Repudiate the political and media manipulation that justifies deportations as a solution to the migratory crisis, concealing the true structural causes of the phenomenon, ignoring the guarantee and protection of human dignity and human rights and inciting racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and fascism.
- 5. Demand from the government of the United States of America an urgent and unconditional change in its hostile and inhumane policy towards the sister Republic of Cuba. We reiterate the call of the United Nations General Assembly to put an immediate end to the illegal economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba, which violates the Charter of the United Nations and International Law, has a harmful impact on the human rights of the Cuban people and is the main obstacle to its development.
  - 6. Demand the immediate exclusion of Cuba from the arbitrary and unilateral list of States that allegedly sponsor terrorism, issued by the U.S. Department of State, which intensifies to unprecedented levels the economic siege against that country, with serious consequences for its population.
  - 7. Demand the immediate lifting of the unilateral coercive measures imposed against the peoples and governments of Nicaragua and Venezuela, in violation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and International Law, while reaffirming our solidarity with the governments and peoples of both countries in their struggle for the defense of Peace, sovereignty and development with social justice.
  - 8. Welcome the recent approval of the Reform of the Nicaraguan Constitution, which reaffirms the commitment to Latin American and

Caribbean integration and the construction of a new world order. We are confident that this progress will strengthen peace, stability and the well-being of the Nicaraguan people. We express our recognition to the Co-Presidents of the Republic of Nicaragua, Commander Daniel Ortega and Comrade Rosario Murillo, for leading this process of historic transformation for the benefit of their nation.

- 9. Repudiate the recent statements of the U.S. government about its intentions in the Palestinian territory that legitimize the invasion by Israel, the occupying power. We demand the immediate cessation of the illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories and the outrageous and aberrant media humiliation, ignoring the suffering of the Palestinian people. We also reaffirm our strongest support for the Palestinian people and government in their historic struggle for survival, resilience and courage and for the recognition of a sovereign state with East Jerusalem as its capital.
- 10. Reaffirm our support for the Caribbean countries in their legitimate demand for reparations for the heinous crimes of slavery and colonialism, which have left deep scars on our societies. ALBA joins the voices of CARICOM leaders in firmly expressing the need for the former colonial powers to assume their historical responsibility and recognize the lasting impact of these crimes in order to make progress in the process of comprehensive reparations to compensate for all the damages caused. Only through historical justice and the recognition of these grievances we can guarantee the dignified advancement of our nations towards a future of equality and development.
- 11. Support the AgroAlba and Alba Azul projects as fundamental mechanisms to guarantee agri-food and livestock sovereignty in Latin America and the Eastern Caribbean and to counteract dependence on imports, which makes them more vulnerable in the current situation of tariff wars. We reaffirm our commitment to these productive integration efforts, which strengthen food security, regional cooperation and sustainable development, promoting an economic model of solidarity and self-sufficiency. We emphasize the fundamental role of traditional agriculture in diversified food production, promoting local and regional consumption as a key strategy to fight malnutrition and extreme

- poverty. In this sense, it is important to advance in the conceptualization and definition of food sovereignty.
- 12. Express our strong support for the critical review process of the coca leaf being carried out by the World Health Organization (WHO) Expert Committee on Drug Dependence. This process is vital to ensure that the classification of the coca leaf under the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs is based on objective scientific criteria. We reiterate the need for this review process to be transparent, rigorous and respectful of the indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge, while making a clear distinction between the traditional and legal use of the coca leaf and its use in illicit activities. We recognize that the coca leaf has been an essential element in the indigenous cultures of our region for centuries, with medicinal, ritual and nutritional practices.
- 13. Reiterate our gratitude and recognition of Cuban medical cooperation programs, which save countless lives and constitute a very important pillar of the region's health systems, including in countries of the Alliance and others in the region, and in this context we strongly reject the administrative measures and political pressure imposed by the United States government, which attempt to deprive States of their legitimate right to implement solidarity programs to promote well-being and the enjoyment of access to health.
- 14. Reaffirm the prompt reactivation of cooperation and solidarity mechanisms to restore stability, peace, democracy, social and economic development to the Republic of Haiti. ALBA-TCP will work to help guarantee the fundamental rights of the Haitian people, giving a resurgence of hopes and victories for our sister Haiti, a nation of heroes and heroines, who historically have been able to overcome adversities and be an example of emancipation, solidarity, freedom and independence of the entire Great Homeland.
- 15. Welcome the incorporation of the government of St. Kitts and Nevis into the Bank of ALBA, thus consolidating the full participation of all member states in the financial branch of the Alliance. This membership reaffirms ALBA's commitment to the construction of a new regional

financial architecture based on cooperation, complementarity and solidarity.

- 16. Celebrate the Bicentennial of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, as a transcendental milestone commemorating two centuries of struggles and achievements of its independence. We highlight this celebration as an opportunity to reflect on the revolutionary process that led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence on August 6, 1825. Likewise, we welcome the invitation to commemorate this historic date, reaffirming regional fraternity and the recognition of Nations and Peoples in the construction of a common future.
- 17. Salute the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) on the celebration of its 9th Summit of Heads of State and Government, to be held on April 9, 2025, in the Republic of Honduras. We highlight the productive leadership of President Xiomara Castro and her team at the head of the Pro Tempore Presidency of CELAC (2024-2025) and their contributions to the strengthening of unity and peace in Latin America and the Caribbean, while we wish success to the people of Colombia and to President Gustavo Petro, who will hold the PPT of CELAC for the period 2025-2026.
- 18. Welcome the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between ALBA-TCP and SADC, as a first step towards strengthening relations with other sub-regional organizations that share the same principles of the Alliance, as well as the consolidation of South-South cooperation, in accordance with the objectives outlined in the 2030 ALBA-TCP Strategic Agenda.

In the face of the resurgence of the extremist and fascist right in Our America, we reaffirm the need to reinforce a strategic political vision of union, based on the firm determination to build a better future for humanity.

Caracas, March 29, 2025