



SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ TO SUPPORT THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM IN ALL ITS FORMS AND MANIFESTATIONS

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on 3rd December 2011, within the framework of the Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC):

They reiterate their total condemnation of all act of terrorism as a criminal and unjustifiable act, and reaffirm their commitment to fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, in strict observance of International Law, International Rules of Human Rights Protection and of International Humanitarian Law. To this end, among other actions, they will strengthen, as is necessary, their national legislation and will promote an active and efficient international cooperation to prevent, investigate, sanction and eliminate every manifestation of this scourge. Likewise, they commit to take actions to prevent, penalize and eliminate the financing and the preparation of any terrorist act and to



deny safe haven to instigators, funders, authors, promoters or participants in terrorist activities, in accordance with the international legal framework, including the respective international conventions and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the General Assembly.

They reaffirm their commitment to the United Nations Global Strategy Against Terrorism, adopted in September 2006, updated in 2008 and 2010, and reiterate their determination to implement the principles enshrined in said strategy and to develop all the actions provided for therein as the most effective way to end the threat of terrorism and ensure full respect for the Rule of Law and respect for Human Rights. They also welcome the work done by the Team of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the implementation of the Strategy to disseminate and coordinate the work of the United Nations in favour of the comprehensive application of the strategy.

They reassert the need to avoid impunity for those who commit terrorist acts and urge all States to fully co-operate in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with International Law, especially in those States against whose territory or nationals terrorist acts are



committed, in order to find, capture and deny safe haven and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle of prosecution or extradition and in keeping with their national legislation, those who support or facilitate the financing, planning, preparation or commission of terrorist acts or the provision of safe haven or who participate in or plan to participate in such acts.

They expressed their solidarity with victims of terrorism and their families, in all its forms and manifestations, wherever such acts have taken place and regardless of who has participated and committed them, or who has sponsored and financed them and the motives adduced as pretexts for committing these crimes.

They urge all States to ensure, in keeping with International Law, that the status of refugee or political refugee is not illegitimately used by those who finance, commit, organize or sponsor terrorist attacks, and that political reasons are not recognized as grounds for denying extradition requests of those persons wanted by the judicial authorities in order to determine their responsibility for terrorist attacks.

They condemn the fact that the person responsible for the terrorist attack on October 1976 against an



aircraft of Cubana de Aviación, which killed 73 innocent civilians, has not been tried for terrorism, and they support actions to achieve his extradition or to bring him to justice.

They reaffirm the value of extradition as an essential tool in the fight against terrorism and urge those States which have received extradition requests for terrorists submitted by the member States of our Community, to consider them duly in full compliance with the applicable legal framework.

Call upon all States that have not yet done so, to consider the possibility to become parties, urgently, to all conventions and protocols concerning terrorism, to fulfill obligations arising from such instruments, as well as from all international agreements that compel them to provide legal assistance, to prosecute and punish promptly and appropriately those persons who finance, sponsor, participate and commit terrorist acts, in strict compliance with International Law, human rights and International Humanitarian Law, as well as the national legislation of each State, against persons, public or private providers of cargo and passenger transportation, internationally protected persons, diplomatic representations, tourist facilities and other public and private facilities.



They shall continue working for the adoption of necessary and adequate measures in accordance with their respective obligations under International Law in order to prohibit by law incitement to commit terrorist acts, as well as to prevent such acts.

They request the States, in the framework of the United Nations, cooperate to reach and conclude an agreement on a comprehensive convention against international terrorism, resolving the existing issues representing an obstacle for the achievement of this Convention, including those related to the legal definition and the scope of the acts addressed by this Convention, in order for this to serve as an efficient instrument in the fight against terrorism. They commit themselves to continue cooperating actively with the competent bodies within the United Nations system in preventing and combating terrorism.

They reiterate their profound solidarity with the victims of terrorist acts, express their desire to receive the necessary support and note the opportunity for the Secretary-General of the United Nations to lend continuity to the first United Nations International Symposium for the support of the Victims of Terrorism, held in 2008.



They shall work to ensure that the solidarity of the international community leads to the creation, in the framework of the United Nations, of a practical mechanism for international assistance to the victims of terrorism.