Nicolás Maduro

Presidente de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela

Edificio Palacio de Miraflores

Avenida Urdaneta

Caracas

**VENEZUELA**

Señor Presidente

I would like to bring your attention to Emirlendris Benítez, María Auxiliadora Delgado and Juan Carlos Marrufo who are being arbitrarily detained for political reasons. They were arrested in March 2019 and are being held in a detention centre under the control of the military counter intelligence unit (DGCIM) and the authorities are denying them their urgently needed medical care.

Emirlendris Benítez was sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2022 in a politically motivated trial and is being subjected to inhumane prison conditions. Since her arrest in August 2018, she has suffered torture, gender-based violence and discrimination. She developed serious health problems and needs urgent surgery. Likewise María Auxiliadora Delgado and Juan Carlos Marrufo also need urgent medical examinations as they are suffering from illnesses that may jeopardise their lives.

Above all, a president is placed in such authority to protect the rights of the citizens and the greater good and prosperity of the country. I would appeal to your humanity to firstly provide these three citizens immediate and unrestricted access to adequate medical care while they are still detained. Secondly by kindly re-examining their cases it will become evident that release is the due course of action.

Yours respectfully