

Thank you very much Madam Chair. Bolivarian The Republic of Venezuela would like to commend you on your appointment as chair and we would also like to reiterate our support for the work of this important forum as one of the places where one can contribute to the defence of those who are excluded in the world, marginalised in this case.

The minorities who today have their human rights negatively affected and they have to undergo discrimination and racism, 20 years on after the declaration we reaffirm that only a proactive participation of the people without discrimination and inequality of conditions and opportunities will it be possible to reverse the vile practices which have deleterious on their most basic rights and liberties especially in developing countries in Europe and America in this daily fight and opposing the predatory capitalist exclusive systems in our country, we have a model of socialist development headed by our commander president Hugo Chavez, which has as its basic access for, based on human being, a new social approach based on the values of solidarity, justice, social inclusion, equality, respect and the realisation of human rights and participation of people in taking decisions on public matters, taking into account of course the various minorities in Venezuela.

To conclude and based on the new responsibilities we have taken on as a member of the HRC, also we would like to reaffirm once again our unswerving support for any and all initiatives which here and in other fora are developed in favour of the protection of the fundamental rights of minorities in all of their manifestations, in order to make it possible to continue to make progress in order to guarantee to everyone a dignified life through the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural along with the political and civil rights in a universal and equitable way with a view to the sustainable development of our people.

Thank you very much.