



Republic of Botswana

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PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE-VENEZUELA

Gaborone, 3rd August 2017: The Government of the Republic of Botswana notes with grave concern, the political developments in the Republic of Venezuela, particularly the recent arrests of opposition members.

The arrests, as well as, the decision by the country's leadership to nullify the existing democratically elected National Assembly and replace it with a Constituent Assembly, are a clear determination by President Maduro's government to suppress the voice of opposition. These untoward actions have far reaching consequences on the democratic dispensation in Venezuela.

Botswana, thus, joins the international community in condemning the continuing deterioration of democracy, governance as well as the rule of law in Venezuela. We further urge President Maduro to respect the will of the people, and avoid any further action that will escalate the current crisis in Venezuela.

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