Minister Lorca at COP28: We welcome approval to operationalize the Loss and Damage Fund

"The success of this COP28 depends on the compliance of developed countries in granting non-refundable financing, in complying with technology transfers and promoting capacity building in a sufficient, sustained, progressive and accessible manner to achieve the goals of adaptation, mitigation and avoid losses and damages due to climate change," said Lorca from Dubai. (More information on pages 2-3)

Venezuela reaffirms commitment to minimize greenhouse gas emissions

Minec presents proposals on the Environmental Law of the state of Guayana Esequiba before the National Assembly (P. 5)

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For an environmentally friendly system

Venezuelan delegation at COP28 meets with OPEC Secretary General (P. 4)
During his speech at the plenary session of the United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP28), which is being held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the Minister of People’s Power for Ecosocialism, Josué Lorca, on behalf of the Venezuelan State, indicated that “we celebrate the approval of the decision to operationalize the loss and damage fund”.

The statement was made at the Expo City Dubai and added that “we demand that its access be truly expeditious to respond to the adverse events that are becoming more common every day”.

“The success of this COP28 depends on the compliance of developed countries in granting non-refundable financing, in complying with technology transfers and promoting capacity building in a sufficient, sustained, progressive and accessible manner to achieve the goals of adaptation, mitigation and avoid losses and damages due to climate change”, he said.

He reminded that “today more than ever the words of President Hugo Chávez are still valid ‘let’s not change the climate, let’s change the system and as a consequence we will be saving the planet’.”

“We are aware that multilateralism has allowed us to advance, however, it has not been enough. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change establishes agreements and it is time to implement them. Taking into account the fundamental principle of shared responsibilities but differentiated national capacities and counting on the necessary means of implementation,” he said.

He emphasized that Venezuela has historically contributed to minimize the climate crisis with 80% of clean electricity generation and 43% of the territory with millions of hectares of forests, biomes and ecosystems, are protected, “which prevents the depredation of resources and allows their sustainable development”, he exclaimed.

“We work with everyone, especially with children, young people, women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and proof of this is that we currently have more than 30,000 young brigadistas fighting against climate change, thus materializing empowerment actions,” he added.

He insisted that “institutionally we have 7,000 park rangers and 3,000 forest firefighters who are part of the Simón Bolívar Humanitarian Task Force (Fthsb) and who provide support to countries that are victims of the effects of the climate crisis.”
“Even when we face the application of criminal, illegal and unjust unilateral coercive measures, which have hindered our development model and energy matrix, all environmental benefit programs remain in operation, thus contributing to the implementation of programmed policies,” he said.

He said that “science tells us that the commitment made by developed countries at COP15 to finance 10,000 million dollars, which has not been fulfilled, is not enough to fight the climate crisis”.

“It is urgent to advance in the global goal of adaptation, a new quantified collective goal of financing and to take pertinent actions based on the results of the first global balance,” he said.

He maintained that “in Venezuela we only emit 0.48% of greenhouse gases worldwide and we have committed, for the coming years, to reduce 20% of such emissions on a voluntary basis.”

“We are promoting Ecosocialism, as an alternative model to fight against the environmental crisis, that is why we have decreed the largest tropical rainforest National Park on planet earth, with 7.5 million hectares. We have strengthened the climate institutionality, creating a National Observatory and a center for the study of the global environmental crisis”, he said.

He urged the countries participating in the conference to “assume a real commitment, let us show that there is enough political will for multilateral international cooperation to advance firmly in the search for solutions to this problem”.

Venezuela shows progress in climate policies at COP28

The Venezuelan delegation present at the United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP28), which is being held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, presented the country’s progress in terms of climate policies.

The explanation took place in the pavilion of the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), and was given by the Vice-Minister for the Preservation of Life and Biodiversity of the Ministry of People’s Power for Ecosocialism (Minec), Colonel José Ramón Pereira, accompanied by the cooperation coordinator Carlos González.

Pereira highlighted the creation of the Presidential Commission against Climate Change, the National Committee of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the establishment of the Vice-Ministry for the Preservation of Life and Biodiversity and the National Observatory against the Climate Crisis (ONCC), as an institutional response of the Bolivarian Government to the crisis caused by climate change.

He also pointed out the importance of the creation of the Revolving Fund against the Climate Crisis, the access mechanisms, its operationalization and the execution of projects through non-reimbursable multilateral cooperation.

The Venezuelan delegation has given its approval to six of the initiatives proposed in the deliberations that began last Thursday.

The Venezuelan State, committed to saving life on the planet and promoting the preservation of Mother Earth, gave its approval on the first day of discussions to the historic decision to operationalize the Loss and Damage Fund.

The other decisions supported by the Bolivarian Government are:

- United Arab Emirates Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action;
- COP28 Declaration on Climate and Health;
- Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace;
- Gender-Righteous Transition and Declaration on Climate Action;
- the Mangroves for Climate Alliance (MAC) and the Dubai Declaration on Oceans “Ocean for Climate”.

Support for six initiatives
The Venezuelan delegation participating in the United Nations Conference on the Parties on Climate Change (COP28) held a meeting with the Secretary General of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Haitham Al-Ghais.

The Venezuelan commission, led by the Minister of People’s Power for Ecosocialism, Josuè Lorca, discussed the importance of OPEC’s participation for the first time in the United Nations conference on climate change, in recognition of OPEC’s voice in the solutions to achieve global environmental balance.

OPEC is responsible for only 4% of the greenhouse gases that cause global warming, the multilateral organization has contributed more than $200 billion to assist non-OPEC countries, the vast majority of which are affected by climate change. The need to advance in cooperation and technology transfer to consolidate a sustainable and environmentally friendly system in all countries was also discussed.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Republic of Congo presented a balance of the last Three Basins Summit at the United Nations Conference of the Parties on Climate Change (COP28).

The presentation was led by the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Congo, Arlette Soudan-Nonault, who also expressed interest in visiting Venezuela next year to finalize the installation of the Secretariat that will coordinate the activities of the Three Basins Summit.

For his part, the Minister for Ecosocialism, Josuè Lorca, highlighted the importance of the countries that concentrate the greatest biodiversity of the planet and how Venezuela and the Congo promote joint policies on environmental matters.
The Minister of People's Power for Ecosocialism, Josué Lorca and his work team, presented before the Permanent Commission of Ecosocialism of the National Assembly (AN), a series of proposals to be considered in the Special Law for the Environmental Development of the State of Guayana Esequiba.

In the Bicentennial Hall of the Federal Legislative Palace in Caracas, the delegation of the Ministry of Ecosocialism was received by the president of the commission in charge of developing the regulation, Deputy Ricardo Molina.

Lorca indicated that the Ministry of Ecosocialism has been working on a strategic method for the environmental protection of Guayana Esequiba.

He recalled that with this action “the Fifth Objective of the Plan of the Homeland is being fulfilled and strengthened, because our Guayana Esequiba is part of the Guiana Massif, it is part of the Amazon biome and it is a fundamental resource for the relationship, maintenance and sustainability of planet Earth”.

He specified that among the proposals are the protected areas to be validated by the different Venezuelan mechanisms and institutions, to be decreed by the President of the Republic when all the necessary regulations are in place.

The head of the Minec announced that among “the proposals for protected areas are the expansion of some National Parks and the creation of new ones, the establishment of new Areas under Special Administration Regime (Abrae), such as Natural Monuments, biosphere reserves and wildlife refuges, which will consolidate the Venezuelan environmental management”.

“The new protected areas will consolidate Venezuela’s environmental heritage. Let’s remember that Venezuela is the first country in Latin America that has more natural areas protected and under protection for the guarantee of future generations”, he said.

For his part, Deputy Ricardo Molina, added that work is being done to draft a bill for the environmental protection of our Guayana Esequiba.

“The AN has already approved in first discussion the Organic Law that has to do with the development of the Guayana Esequiba, but from it will derive the necessary aspects in the framework of special laws, in this case the environmental issue that will consider points such as the aspect of water protection, the entire fluvial network that exists in our Guayana Esequiba, which is of paramount importance for the contribution of the temperature balance of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic, and even, as well as the marine fauna”, he explained.

Molina emphasized that the Law must contemplate the control of mining exploitation, which has been carried out illegally in this territory, and which is causing tremendous damage to ecological systems, which will have severe consequences.

He specified that “the law must be relatively short, very agile in its application, a driver in the development of all the activities in the territory of our Guyana with a vision of protection of the environment, of a respectful relationship with our Mother Earth, a new type of coexistence in which we have the guarantee of the permanence of life in this territory and that we can defend it not only from the point of view of our sovereignty”.

He instructed the constitution of a mixed commission between the Permanent Commission of Ecosocialism of the NA, the Ministry for Ecosocialism, Ministry of Planning to process the mentioned aspects and to conform the chapters and articles that must constitute this bill.
Brigades against Climate Change celebrate second anniversary

The Brigades against Climate Change reached their second anniversary this December 7, as an organization attached to the Ministry of People’s Power for Ecosocialism (Minec), dedicated to training and promoting environmental awareness among the country’s youth.

The official celebration took place at a meeting between the members of the Brigades and spokespersons from the National Parks Institute (Inparques), Forest Firefighters and other entities such as Petróleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA), Fundación Caracas (FundaCaracas), the National Assembly (AN) and the Youth of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela (Jpsuv), among others.

Currently, the Brigades against Climate Change, directed by Jean Román, have more than 30,000 members, made up of children and young people, who are instructed on adaptation and mitigation of the climate crisis, with continuous training reinforced by actions in house-to-house deployments, camps, seed collection and planting, awareness and knowledge workshops, among others.

In this regard, the general director of Training of the Minec and president of the Environmental Education Foundation (Fundambiente), Jesús Méndez, highlighted the fundamental task of the brigades that adds young people and the people in general to save our environment.

“The brigades are adding wills, forming and cultivating respect for the planet and life, under the indications of President Nicolás Maduro and Minister Josué Lorca”, said Méndez.

For his part, the national leader of the brigades, Jean Román, briefly recounted at the ceremony the process of creation that the project had, and that he assumed as a young man of the country and recreationalist, in the commitment to generate a change and make a mark in Venezuela and the world, showing the power of youth through speech, music, theater and art.

Brigades against Climate Change celebrate second anniversary

They will continue to promote formative processes among young people

The method has already been used in France and Switzerland

Thermal blankets arrived in Merida to protect the glacier at Humboldt Peak

A batch of 35 rolls of thermal blankets recently acquired by the Bolivarian Government for the protection of the glacier on the Humboldt peak in the Sierra Nevada National Park in the state of Merida, arrived in the Andean entity.

The blankets will be placed on the surface of the Humboldt glacier in order to extend its life.

The new material is composed of a reflective polyester and polypropylene fiber, designed for the thermal treatment of glaciers, whose function is to increase the capacity of a glacier to avoid the reflection of sunlight, avoid heat and generate a micro-temperature.

The modern method has been implemented in France and Switzerland, with the purpose of preserving the snow cover and reducing its melting. It will be applied for the first time in Venezuela as part of the climate change mitigation strategies developed by the government of President Nicolás Maduro.
Through his social networks, the general director of Training and president of the National Environmental Foundation (Fundambiente), Jesús Méndez, informed that with “The apocalyptic board of imperial geopolitics”, the cycle of conferences of this year 2023 came to an end.

A total of 256 people from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Spain, Honduras and Venezuela participated in the activity, which was directed by the Bolivian philosopher Rafael Bautista Segales, who made a transcendent account of how capitalism has demolished through the years the historical narrative of our people “an empire fights for everything and if it cannot have everything, it fights so that nobody has anything”, he reiterated.

During his speech he pointed out that “what is happening in Venezuela right now has global interests and that at this moment we are being attacked by imperialism”.

For his part, Méndez pointed out that from his leadership, great formative activities will be developed in 2024 for the benefit of Mother Earth.

The videoconference was attended by participants from several Latin American countries.

More than 250 people participated

Minec ends 2023 lecture series with “The Apocalyptic Board of Imperial Geopolitics”
I signed the official decrees for the development and defense of the new Venezuelan state of “Guayana Esequiba”, I ask the blessing of the Creator and all the support of the Venezuelan people and the FANB to advance in Peace towards the great objective: that our Venezuela be left with its complete map and follow its path of glory and union. Publish and execute!

I immediately ordered to publish and to take to all schools, high schools, Community Councils, public establishments, universities and in all homes of the country the new Map of Venezuela with our Guayana Esequiba. This is our beloved map!

World Soil Day was born out of the need to join efforts to combat the consequences of climate change that affect the health of our soils, threatening the development of agricultural activity and the life of all species on the planet.