\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President of National Assembly

Jorge Rodriguez

Esqs. Monjas a San Francisco
Hemiciclo. Palacio Federal Legislativo
Carmelitas, Av Sur 2
Caracas, Distrito Capital
VENEZUELA

Twitter: **@jorgepsuv**

CC: **@volker\_turk**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Jorge Rodríguez,

**It is deeply concerning that the Venezuelan National Assembly is again moving forward with the proposed Law on the Control, Regularization, Activity and Financing of Non-Governmental and Related Organizations against NGOs operating in the country**.

This bill is yet another attempt to control, restrict and potentially criminally prosecute non-governmental organizations that make an indispensable contribution to Venezuelan society. The threat posed by this attempt is ma-de even more serious by the backdrop of possible presidential elections this year.

If passed, this law would violate international human rights norms and standards, and the bill severely threatens the work of NGOs, humanitarian organizations and other members of Venezuelan civil society. It constitutes a shameful effort to curtail their vital work to support the country’s most vulnerable people.

**We emphatically reiterate our call for the National Assembly to immediately drop this bill and ensure an end to all efforts to attack, control, prosecute or censor civil society organizations that are working to protect the rights of all people in Venezuela, particularly those most in need.**

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Copie**

Botschaft der Bolivarischen Republik Venezuela, Waldeggstrasse 47, Postfach 237, 3097 Liebefeld

Fax: 031 371 64 69 / E-Mail: embajada@embavenez-suiza.ch