

# INTERNATIONAL

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## Venezuela

*“The CFMEU National Conference congratulates and supports the Venezuelan government for it's utilisation of the country's wealth and resources for reforms to benefit working people, the poor and the landless.*

*We note the results of the referendum last August in Venezuela that gave President Hugo Chavez an overwhelming victory and a strengthened democratic mandate.*

*The CFMEU further notes that these results confirm that there is overwhelming support amongst working people and the poor for the social programme of the Chavez government in relation to education, literacy, job training, health care, land reform and subsidised food.*

*However, we view with alarm the bellicose statements being made by the US Administration and its allies in Columbia and the oligarchy in Venezuela which pose a real threat to these reforms.*

*We deplore the attempts of the United States administration to intervene in the internal life of Venezuela and agree to raise these concerns with the Australian government.*

*We express our solidarity with trade unionists in Venezuela and reject any outside interference in their affairs.*

*We note the independent poll in July that showed over 70% support for Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. We also note the Venezuelan threat to suspend oil exports to the US if attacks on its government continue.*

*We resolve to support the Venezuelan people's efforts to preserve their democratically elected government.*

*We undertake to make our position known to the ACTU and seek to win broad endorsement of the position adopted in this in this resolution.”*