

**ENERGY CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT
PETROCARIBE**

We, the Heads of State and / or Government, gathered in the City of Puerto la Cruz, Venezuela, within the framework of the Energy Meeting for the creation of PETROCARIBE:

1. WELCOME the initiative of the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the creation of PETROCARIBE, the fundamental objective of which is to contribute to the energy security, the social and economic development and the integration of the Countries of the Caribbean through the sovereign use of energy resources based entirely on the principles for integration referred to as the Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas(ALBA);
2. RATIFY the commitments assumed at the First Meeting of Energy Ministers of the Caribbean held in Caracas, Venezuela, on 10 July 2004 and at the Second PETROCARIBE Meeting of Energy Ministers held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 26 to 27 August 2004;
3. AGREE that, for the Latin American and the Caribbean region, integration is an essential condition for striving to achieve development in the midst of the increasing creation of large regional blocks occupying major positions in the world economy;
4. CONCLUDE that only integration based on co-operation, solidarity and the common will to advance to higher levels of development can help fulfil the needs and aspirations of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean while allowing them to preserve their independence, sovereignty and identity;
5. REITERATE that the objective of PETROCARIBE is to help in the transformation of Latin American and Caribbean societies by making them fairer, more educated, participatory and harmonious nations. For this reason, PETROCARIBE has been conceived as an integral process intended to promote the eradication of social inequalities and to foster improved living standards and more effective participation by nations in their efforts to shape their own destiny;