



2015 YEAR OF VICTORY

Recount and report to the Nation

Nicolás Maduro Moros
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

National Assembly, Caracas, January 21, 2015



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2015, year of victory

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PRESENTATION

On Wednesday January 21, 2015, the president of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro Moros, addressed the people and the representatives of the four powers of the State in order to present his recount and annual report to the Nation as stipulated by the Bolivarian Constitution.

In his speech the head of State and leader of the Bolivarian Revolution drew up a balance of the achievements and progress attained by the people and the revolutionary government, in spite of the aggressions, sabotage and conspiracy orchestrated by the Venezuelan right-wing and its international allies such as economic warfare, “guarimbas” (violent street rallies) and other ways which have tried to destabilize the democratically elected government.

At the same time the President announced some measures to be enforced by the National Executive, mostly in the economic area, and the great projects and social programs to be implemented in the current year 2015 so as to continue moving on in the construction of an egalitarian society strengthening the development of the country in the new scenario posed by the drop in the price of oil.





NICOLÁS MADURO MOROS
PRESIDENT OF THE BOLIVARIAN
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, CARACAS, JANUARY 25, 2015

Deputy Diosdado Cabello, president of the National Assembly fellow countrymen members of the Assembly, vice presidents Elvis Amoroso and Tania Díaz, congratulations on your election for the vice presidency of this National Assembly.

Members of the Assembly from all the regions of the country, from all the movements and political sectors of this beautiful and colorful democracy we have in Venezuela full of freedom, possibilities

and opportunities always in the frame of the Constitution.

I am glad to see all the representatives from the opposition here present today as it should be in the public discussion of ideas. Dear president of the Supreme Court of Justice, Dr. Gladys Gutiérrez and other magistrates.

President of the National Electoral Council, citizen Tibusay Lucena, doctor and constituent of the Republic, Tarek William Saab, at present president of the Republican Moral Council and people's defender. Doctor Luisa Ortega Díaz, General Attorney of the Republic. Professor Manuel Galindo, General Treasury Inspector of the Republic. Citizen Ciro Araujo, general public defender. Executive Vice president of the Republic, comrade Jorge Arreaza. Vice president of the Government, Marco Torres.

Carlos Osorio, Ricardo Menéndez, Héctor Rodríguez, Admiral in Chief Carmen Melendez, comrade Elías Jaua, ministers comrade generals, admirals, members of the High Command of the Army, comrades of the National Bolivarian Armed Forces.

Diplomatic corps, monsignor Aldo Giordano, apostolic nuncio, Dean of the diplomatic corps, ambassadors, chargé d'affaires from all the sister countries here in our beloved Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, special guests, people's power, organizations of workers, peasants, fishermen, artists, poets, women, youth, sportsmen and sportswomen.

Today's meeting is honored by the presence of two glorious representatives

of the Venezuelan Golden Generation, Women's Lightweight World Champion boxer Mayerlín Rivas, some uppercut! There she is with her crown forged by day after day of discipline, congratulations. And also de four-time champion of Tachira's Cycling Race, the great cyclist and sports glory, Rujano who competed representing Merida's team. Congratulations to Táchira and congratulations to Merida too, (José Rujano and Mayerlín Rivas) they represent the best part of the Venezuelans, they represent the good Venezuelans, all of you, men, women, mothers, sisters, wives, children, husbands, members of the victims committee and relatives, victims of the guarimbas and the ongoing coup; their wives, widows, daughters are here today, we also acknowledge their actions so that justice is done.

There will only be peace if true justice is done, justice, shout the people in the streets in the face of murderers, conspirators and coupists; democracy, but justice; peace, but justice.

Honoring the young martyr Robert Serra

Citizen president Diosdado Cabello, I would like to begin this annual report by requesting you and all the people of Venezuela who are watching us on a national radio and television network, a minute of prayer to the memory of Robert Serra, a young member of this National Assembly, an unforgettable member of this National Assembly, I want to start my speech remembering his memory, his message, his example, and having our people keep a minute of silent payer. The minute begins now.

There will only be peace if true justice is done, justice, shout the people in the streets in the face of murderers, conspirators and participants in the coup d' état; democracy, but justice; peace, but justice.

(The Assembly keeps a minute of silence)

The minute of silence to the memory of Robert Serra, brave martyr of the Bolivarian revolution, has concluded. Robert lives!

Remembering Robert, undoubtedly, is remembering that unforgettable year in the history we are living in the Venezuelan XXI century, the year 2014, a year of intense struggle, when all the peace will of a country was put to the test, when we were attacked in different ways, pretending to take to the limit the internal coexistence of the political struggle and impose through violence patterns of intervention in the internal affairs of our country.

Sad, is it not?, to confirm in such a valuable youth, who had a long life ahead, full of attributes, precisely in the year of the youth, 200 years since that heroic battle, our whole society encountered the horrendous face of induced terrorism, brought from abroad which turned this brave young man, this Venezuelan political leader into a martyr of our people's causes, the cause of the Revolution.

Robert represented the irruption of a young generation in the very development of the Bolivarian Revolution, which was summoned and motivated to participate in politics in a decisive way by our Supreme Commander Hugo Chávez who opened the door for them as never before so that they participated in the policies, in the decision making, in the struggles, a generation that went out to the streets to wage the battle of ideas and which marked their own political space.

The crime against Robert Serra, fully proved, was carried out by hired assassins. They never thought that Robert himself would leave the evidence of his assassination. From Colombia came the orders, from Colombia everything was arranged, paramilitary groups introduced in the country by the Venezuelan right wing to influence on the political development of our country. They tried to make believe it was one of the many crimes, but as the experts in the sister country of Colombia say, they wants to set up a positive-false to try, on the basis of the physical crime, to present it as a moral crime to discredit so as to justify violence and death.

That is why I wanted to begin these words by remembering Robert who was a fervent defender of his ideas, a pationate defender of the Bolivarian Revolution, a man who knew how to develop his intelligence and his words, in his short life his left us an example of what faith is, the faith in a political project, the project of the Bolivarian Revolution.

His death also left an imprint, a sign, so that all of us know the way to struggle in Venezuela, the peaceful way or the violent way, the way of respectful coexistence and respect on the basis of the battle of ideas or the way of terrorism and murder. No doubt we all know which the way of the Venezuelan people is. The Venezuelan people let its voice be heard in the year 2014 and spoke clearly. The Venezuelan people managed to defeat all the extra constitutional actions and isolated all the violent ways.

The Venezuelan people let its voice be heard in the year 2014 and spoke clearly. The Venezuelan people managed to defeat all the extra constitutional actions and isolated all the violent ways.

Our people want peace

2014 was the year in which we faced again the script of destabilization and violence. It seemed they were old time never to be repeated in our country, especially because after we lived such a difficult year as the year 2013 when Venezuela suffered the physical departure and the uncertainty created by the physical departure of Commander Chávez, indisputable leader of our country, founding leader of the Bolivarian Revolution, once

we could go around all the circumstances and the uncertainties that came about after his physical death, once we could surpass through elections all the differences of criteria that came up after April 14, 2013 which were fully settled by the electoral results of December 8, 2013, once that with the victory in our hands I called for an extended political dialogue with all the political, social and economic sectors, nobody with a sound mind, if we are to be truly democratic, would have expected that the response imposed to vast sectors of the Venezuelan opposition were violence and conspiracy again, the hidden card, but that is the way it turned out to be.

While we were carrying out a process of political dialogue, meetings and appeals to work together to plan the year 2014, we were taken by surprise by the start of a political plan called “La Salida” (the exit) which pretended to disclaim a whole political and constitutional reality. You have to be really daring to disclaim realities such as we have in Venezuela, to disclaim the existence of a National Assembly, a solid and firmly constituted

where a majority supports the revolutionary project legitimately in keeping with the vote of the people, to disclaim realities such as the legitimate leadership, active. I would say from the streets. In 20 out of the 23 states it is in the hands of governors who are trustful loyal and workers of the Bolivarian Revolution.

It takes nerve: to disclaim 75% of the local leaderships legitimately elected in elections they pretended to turn into a plebiscite which in spite of the recommendations of the survey professionals and the marketing sectors who pretend to be very aware, but that really know nothing, in spite of their recommendations: the challenge of the plebiscite, the challenge of the “bold”; what they really attained was to challenge the deep soul of the Bolivarian people to give the Revolution a good victory, a fair victory that December 8, barely 13 months ago.

Do not dare say it was the Daka effect; do not expect results where there were none. It was the plebiscite effect, the challenge effect that led the people to a great victory, as it has been recognized by the whole world, an important victory, politically and territorially, at public level and to very good results for those who have different options from the Bolivarian project to the Chávez project.

You have to be really reckless to let others impose an extremist policy and disclaim a whole country, let us not say a President, but a whole country, a huge challenge not recognizing a National Bolivarian Armed Force which has been and still is by the side of the project of Bolívar, the project of Chávez, not recognizing the military-civic union which has not been harmed in spite of acts of con-

2014 was the year in which we faced again the script of destabilization and violence. It seemed they were past times never to be repeated in our Venezuela.

spiracy many of which have been proved and are standing to trial.

Disclaiming a country, disclaiming the solid relations the revolutionary project that leads our country has at an international level. That is the way the year 2014 began, taking the wrong steps which, in spite of the call to dialogue I made again and again, were not corrected, let us not say in time, they have not been corrected today.

Today we see how the year 2015 starts in the mess of the same unsuccessful wrong policies, the same extremist policies that do harm to this country as I intend to prove in this report and as our people is experiencing every day in the streets.

It may seem the sectors that oppose the Revolution do not have the capacity of political analysis and claim another option to the Bolivarian Revolution of our Commander Chávez. It may seem it has been shown during a decade and a half that they do not have the capacity to listen, to join the will and the deep consciousness of our people, democracy and peace, the wish of most of our people to take the road of peace to reach the road to prosperity.

The year 2014 was a complex year, but peace overcame. One achievement had the year 2014, facing conspiracy, “guarimbas” (violent street demonstrations) actions taken by criminal gangs that put an end to the lives of young courageous people such as Robert Serra; if we are to outstand an achievement in the year 2014 it is the reassur-

ance of a conscience of peace, the peace will most of our people and our country have today.

Peace, peace and nothing but peace our people want. I do not want the road that leads to adventure, shortcuts and conspiracy.

A complex year, which besides, in the second term began to erase the road to peace to take the road of sabotage and economic warfare.

Different ways of economic warfare

There is an extremely important debate going on in this country, there is a debate about the economic subject that once we hear the different versions of the experts it is necessary that debate generalizes, too.

A country that has been setting up a fair model of distribution of wealth, for the first time in the history of this country. Unique, even, I believe, for the progressive models that have tried to transform Latin-American countries, a model of fair

distribution of wealth that was created in the course of this decade and a half that has allowed us to withstand, and if there is something that can properly prove it, is the model of fair distribution of the national wealth, of fair investment of the national wealth what enabled the achievements of 2014 and allowed us to withstand

the national and international economic ram we had to face.

A number of mechanisms of economic warfare that hardened during the second half of 2014. Domestic economic warfare, smuggling, creation of groups spon-

It may seem the sectors that oppose the Revolution do not have the capacity of political analysis and claim another option to the Bolivarian Revolution of our Commander Chávez.



sored by sectors of the criminal economy in order to attack the logistics and distribution networks, hoarding. I have said it in a number of occasions. In the second half of last year we faced a very demanding test in the economic area. We kept the public investment thanks to the fair system of distribution of wealth we have, supporting, sustaining, we could say, three countries.

The country of the Venezuelan family, that works today. We have broken the record of reduction of unemployment again; a country which our model of fair distribution of wealth, our socialist model, in its first stage of construction serves through different ways: the Missions, the Grand Missions. The country with the highest family income in 100 year in Venezuela.

A second country supported by the criminal economy in the hoarding of products from big distributors. Maybe the second half of 2014 allowed us to see

in the scenario of the battle against the economic warfare, the mechanisms used to make products disappear in coordination with a political strategy of the criminal sectors, of a parasitic bourgeoisie with an insurreccional attitude, disclaiming the institutions and playing with the patience of the Venezuelan people.

And a third country of the smuggling of products out of the country in which many lesson can be learned from our Bolivarian National Armed Forces due to their direct combat against it. And the record of pursuit and capture against the criminal economy that takes all kinds of products out of the country, not only gasoline, which has been significantly reduced, thanks to the actions of our Bolivarian National Armed Forces, but products of all kinds: food and pharmaceuticals.

Practically three countries supported by the effort of national producers. I want to acknowledge here either from the

countryside or the city, the thousands of people, workers, millions of workers, and I also have to say patriotic entrepreneurs, who I greet from here. Entrepreneurs of our country who are leading their factories, their industries, their production process, alongside the working class, the peasants, the communes and all the State-owned, socialist production forms of social character. And also the formidable investment the State has made, is making and will continue to make for the well being of our people.

There has been a relentless attack to cut systematically the distribution network, a kind of evil campaign to upset the people. That is not new. It has been persistent, we must admit, and has put the consciousness of our people to the test. You can see the face of those strategists who think that in that way they will oust and defeat the Bolivarian Revolution, destroying the people, affecting the people, trying to profit from induced difficulties and created to generate a destabilization process. Fifteen year of failure of the same strategy!

I can say here today: not only a political failure, but human as well, because all that strategy of violence led to the loss of the lives of 43 valuable Venezuelans. More than 850 wounded, out of who 350 with severe physical disabilities. That has no importance for those who believe that through the destabilization and violence will accede to power some day.

It is the strategy of waging on destruction, and to complement that strategy, they have been listening to the advice, the ad-

vice coming from abroad from those who claimed that once commander Chávez departed the Revolution would collapse, would be finished, would not last another day. That is the belief of those who joined those adventurous strategies meant to destroy the foundations of the Republic and the economy of the Republic.

I think it is time, I believe after 22 months of the departure of our Commander Hugo Chávez, I believe that 22 months should be enough – for those who have made the wrong steps and figure out new wrong steps towards destabi-

lization to realize the great moral, political and institutional strength that the Bolivarian revolutionary project founded by Commander Hugo Chávez has. That it has not been nor it will ever be defeated by any conspiracy or strategies of economic warfare and that

it has the capacity of renewing and surmounting difficulties.

We must keep on insisting, dear fellow citizens, on consciousness. We, the Bolivarian and Chavist people, are the guarantee of peace and stability, of the future of this Republic. We are the backbone on which the new independence relies, on which a new social model has been built which incorporated millions – ignored before, exploited before – and ignored again today by those who think they can be cheated, and confused, irritating them.

What capacity of analysis can there be before certain facts of the political reality. I have been thinking myself – as Head of the State, as Head of the government as the leader of a generation of revolu-

There has been a relentless attack to cut systematically the distribution network, a kind of evil campaign to upset the people.

tionaries form by Chávez -, as part of a revolutionary collective of which I am proud, to which I belong, to which Commander Chávez gave a historical task: to keep peace in our country, to face the difficulties that might come and keep on doing the Revolution in Venezuela, keep on doing the Revolution to integrate our America.

The revolutionary forces get stronger

We recently went to Brazil, the first and second of January, and there we talked with different world leaders – including Vice president Biden -. Who sent regards to everyone. Comrade Biden, a respectful greeting! -, If someone smiles, we smile, if he offers a hand, we shake it, if he respects, we respect. That is the only thing we ask from the United States of America: respect for our country, for this glorious land, for this sacred land which witnessed the birth of Bolívar, Antonio José de Sucre, Francisco de Miranda and Hugo Chávez.

And recently we also were to China opening the CELAC-China Forum. We talked with some leader of the continent, well in china we had some meetings with President Xi Jinping and leaders of the new China; afterwards we went- as you well know- to the Islamic Republic of Iran, we had a long conversation with President Rouhani, with the Supreme leader Ayatollah Jomeini, a wise man, a great wisdom, of great spirituality as the Iranian people; we also experienced special affection from the Arab people in Saudit Arabia, in Qatar, in Algeria and then we went to Moscow – we had already been to Moscow before during a technical stop-over, the vice chancellor met us and we



arranged my coming back. We had a long conversation with this great leader of the world; he is a great leader of the new times the world is living, Vladimir Putin, extraordinary leader of the new Russia.

And there always, with all the sectors we talked, we saw concern about Venezuela. What is going to happen here? What is going to happen there? Even for that someone here said, I have no doubt, believe me, we will meet here again a year from now: the candidates. I have no doubt the Bolivarian Revolution will attain a great victory in the parliamentary elections of this year 2015. I have no doubt about it, not the least bit of a doubt. If those elections were to be held today, the revolutionary forces would defeat the forces of the right wing by ten points. You know that.

That is a little balance I wanted to make, because it has been fifteen years, my fellow countrymen. It is not two elections we have won. Maduro has 80% against, so you say, alright! Alright! I believe it is 150. What I am certainly sure of is that Chavez's people will give the memory of Hugo Chávez a victory in the elections for the National Assembly to be held this year. No doubt about it!

Then I was wondering why people say that. "Ah! No, but once the elections take place those people must remain quiet." I say: No! If we have won 18 out of 19, with all the characteristics and margins of difference they get worse. Truly we hope – I hope from the bottom of my heart, as our beloved Chávez hoped, that one day in Venezuela emerge from the opposition a democratic option that really respect the political life, one you can really talk with, where we respect each other; we have urge

them to talk enough times and eventually they kicked the dialogue "no conditions", they said to me. "No, we want this broadcast on a television and radio network" and I said go ahead. I told them you three talk, and we three talk, so as not to make it too long. "Fourteen of us have to talk..." "OK fourteen! "Let the Pope come. Let him come. "Let UNASUR come" Let it come. And overnight a kick because they keep on making the same mistake of underestimating the Bolivarian Revolution of believing they can destroy this country and that on the basis of the economic and political destruction you will get to power walking the red carpet having millions of people accepting whatever you say.

No force, no political option pretending to get to power in the Venezuela of the XXI century will do it flying the banners of counterrevolution, destabilization or conspiracy; and much less the political, human, moral and economic destruction of our country. The year 2014, a year of reflection, that must objectively, listening to our people, allow us to share great lessons.

A just model of investment of our wealth

I am just going, once the report was handed on January 2015 -thanks to the executive Vice president who handed it in as the Constitution demands while I was under constitutional permission meeting with president Vladimir Putin in Moscow-, I just want to share with our people the concrete expression of the strength of our model of fair distribution of the country's wealth. And I say this because

I have no doubt the Bolivarian Revolution will attain a great victory in the parliamentary elections of this year 2015. I have no doubt about it!

No force, no political option pretending to get to power in the Venezuela of the XXI century will do it flying the banners of counterrevolution, destabilization or conspiracy; and much less the political, human, moral and economic destruction of our country.

in the midst of the economic sabotage, of permanent conspiracy and violence one always has big concerns. We have already gone through the years 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, you remember how the coups and the oil sabotage 12 years ago triggered unemployment from 18, to 20 percent, it also triggered poverty, and it affected the lives of our people.

They, afterwards asked for forgiveness for the Coup d' état ,- as I heard some voices apologizing for the guarimbas, even though they are still planning new actions now-. Here are some results I would like to share with you, as to how a country under national and international siege and permanent sabotage and the violence of a sector that still does not understand its role in the development of a dynamic democracy, in the respect to the Constitution, in the pacific coexistence with positions different from the ones you defend, how, in spite of those adversities, those difficulties, the year 2014 showed the strength of the model of just investment of the country's wealth.

First in this balance I would like to share some statistics of scientific institutions in our country about this matter. What social investment has been in two periods 1983-1998 and the period of 1999 – 2014? This is a chart that allows us to see what has been the growing income; I invite the Executive Vice president, vice presidents and ministers to come, whenever you dictate citizen president Diosdado Cabello, to debate these data, all these figures, all these achievements openly with the members of this National Assembly as we did in

2010, this is a good time to do it. I believe that as a political dialogue, as political dialectic, as an opportunity for encounter and sincere debate, I believe it is a good contribution to the climate of peace the country needs.

Here we can see it (shows the Chart), during these years, 1999, 2014, you know that thanks to the recovering of OPEC, our brothers from OPEC, and the leadership of Commander Chávez the recovering of the market was possible; with the discipline of OPEC and a sustained defense of the oil income was attained which reached record prices of 110, 120 dollars a barrel these years.

This allowed the income of our country to increase fivefold in these fifteen years. The fifteen years previous to 1983, I think it was the term of president Luis Herrera Campíns, may he rest in peace; the term of Jaime Lusinchi, may he rest in peace; then came the term of Carlos Andrés Pérez, chapter II, and all the process of imposition by the International monetary Fund and the irruption of the people and the Revolution; and then came the second term of Doctor Rafael Caldera, may he also rest in peace, during that period the income reached 224 thousands 946 million dollars.

With the recovery of Pdvesa and the recovery of OPEC, this oil income in these fifteen years, the first fifteen years of the Revolution, has increased fivefold and in the year 2014 reached 1 182 million dollars. Now, the most important thing about this, the most important is seeing how a system to capture the oil revenue, to increase it with sovereignty; but most importantly to distribute it, to invest it in the social, economic and com-

prehensive development of our country.

If in that period of the last fifteen years of the so called Fourth Republic, the investment in social development was approximately 37%- you know where the rest of the country's wealth went to-, in the fifteen years of the Revolution, the first fifteen years and average of over 60% of the oil revenues has been invested in the social life, prosperity, fair living and well being of our people.

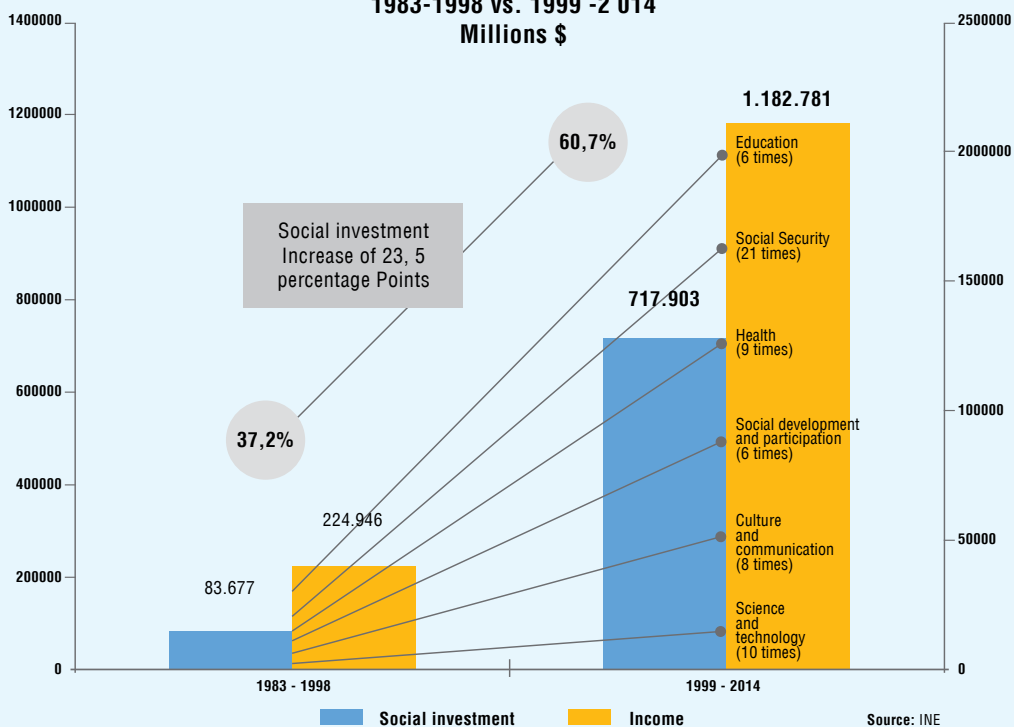
There in the chart is important to see, I have to say it though it is not shown in the chart, the year 2013. Notice that in the year 2013 we had managed to increase the investment of income from 60% to 64%, all the disturbance of violence and the economic sabotage, led to affectation; though we keep a good pace

of 60.7% of the income that has to be increased to 70%, we have set the goal as part of our Country's Plan, to invest in the social development of our country at least 70% of the income.

You can see it in the chart with the official statistics of the National Institute of Statistics of our Republic, in this period 6 times more has been invested in public education for our children, for our youth; 21times more in social security, pensions, assistance to the people, Missions, Grand Missions which are a part of the new social security system of the Bolivarian Revolution. Nine times more has been invested in health, 9 times more in development and participation, communes, community councils, Federal Council of Govern-

With the recovery of Pdvesa and the recovery of OPEC, these oil revenues in these fifteen years, the first fifteen years of the Revolution, have increased fivefold.

**Social investment by areas and income
1983-1998 vs. 1999 -2 014
Millions \$**



ment; 6 times more in housing; 8 times more in culture, cultural identity and communication; and 10 times more in science and technology, access to Internet, access to computers for our children, etc., etc.

We can say that in the year 2014, in spite of the disturbances and the economic attacks, the pace of social investment of the oil's wealth and our country's wealth was kept. First statistics, the first chart I wanted to share with you.

Secondly, important news for the analysts, for the country. The analysts are you who are analyzing at home, in your neighborhood, in your factory, in your place of study, of work, in your car, on the van, on the bus; they great analysts of this country, now we are millions of analysts.

At the same time the Gini coefficient, which as you all know, is a coefficient, a survey of sampling by homes carried out in all countries; it is a formula created by an Italian to measure the inequality in the distribution of a country's income per homes. The Gini close to zero, means an egalitarian distribution of income according to a number of factors, elements, of access to services, and the solution of vital matters of the home, of the family, which our vice presidents and ministers will be able to share with you in detail. And the value close to one means a very unequal distribution. Well, Venezuela has been evolving positively from level of big inequality, and I can tell you so, in spite of the economic attack, in spite of the economic warfare. Thanks to the investment on the Missions and Grand Missions, in the year 2014 we were able to break the record again, reducing inequality in the country getting close to

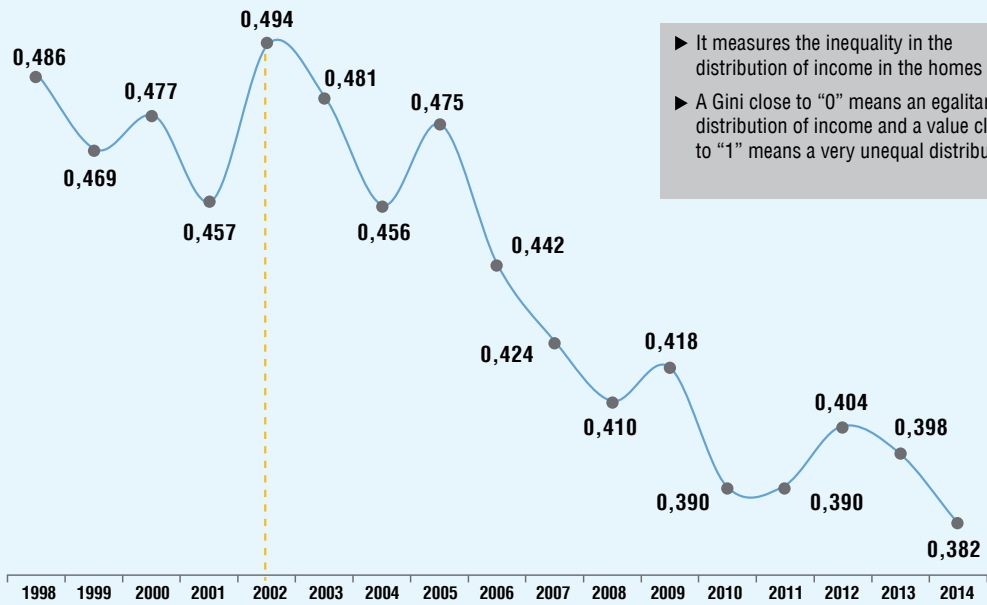
zero in the Gini measurement in the world.

This is an assessment on the basis of world standards used by the United Nations Organization, used by F.A.O, used by UNESCO, used by all institutes of statistics in the world to assess equality and inequality. You know that the topic of inequality goes first in the agenda of world debate about economic, social and political models.

Today, in Europe, for instance, there is a big debate; fresh winds of change have begun to blow in Europe. From the debate of equality, inequality of unemployment, how many people are evicted! are they not? In many countries they take people's houses just to please the law of the powerful. How many cutbacks of budgets? I am amazed to see, in one of the countries we visited a European authority about what they have had to do in the last four, five years. You in his world know little in spite of the fact that Telesur keeps us well informed-, but you know little about them having reduced the salaries and wages of the workers by a 30%, they have reduced pensions to 30%, 40%, they have laid off and deregulated all norms to hire and lay workers off, they have created laws, they call youth laws which has nothing to do with youth, they are rather laws of slavery in the first age very different from the one we passed by habilitant law for our youth last year a just law that enables them to do their in service period and participate in the working process.

There is the Gini coefficient which has been substantially reduced from 0,398 to 0,382, and we have to keep on working so that the investment allows us every time more to build a country of equals in the

Gini coefficient 1998-2014



- ▶ It measures the inequality in the distribution of income in the homes
- ▶ A Gini close to "0" means an egalitarian distribution of income and a value close to "1" means a very unequal distribution

Note: It refers to the first semesters of each year. Source: Household Sample Survey - INE



access to work, in the access to wealth, equals in the access to services, to social rights, a country of equals, a socialist country, every time more a socialist social model, Bolivarian and deeply Christian, as conceived by our Commander Hugo Chávez.

Some data -so as not to make it too long- we were studying about a hundred charts with precise statistics, very important to know how we are going, especially in time in which we are subject to big commotion and convulsions- unfortunately because of the political wrongdoing of those who use power, which they have, to do harm and not to construct. Because if you have power, even though you are a political minority in the country, it should contribute to the prosperity, to the development, to the protection of the people, to democracy, to coexistence and not to destroy, not to hinder, not to do harm.

A key element of the announcement I am about to make, that has to do with employment, in the statistics of the closing of the year, in the closing statistics, we are always watching over this. It is the school of the teacher, it is our teacher that taught us all we are, our teacher Hugo Chávez who was always watching over his people, the employment, the income, the Missions, Education, Health, the children, the youth, workers, women, It is Chávez! That is why we are Chavists, Chavists from our hearts, Chavists forever, it is Chávez! We have him in our blood, in our bones, in our souls, in our minds, in our hearts each day of our lives. Thank you Holly Spirit for giving us Chávez.

Notice that in spite of the fact we had an economic decrease of 2, 8%, a very high inflation over 64%, there are actual factors of economy, but there are also induced factors with the idea of destroying our country socially. For the debate of the minister when they come, it would be useful to bring data from other countries- maybe not to name them here, because we respect and deeply appreciate all countries-, some experience of a country with an economic decrease of almost 3%, and inflation over 60%, starting from Venezuela, inequality and open unemployment have been reduced.

You tell me, here are some experts on that subject, some of our vice president is experts on that subject, and they have been studying for years, and some members of the Assembly, too. Here is Deputy Ricardo Sanguino, who has studied all the topics related to economy, also comrade Soto Rojas, studying these subjects for 50 years.

Which country with an economic decrease, in our case induced, unemployment is reduced and the variables remain under control, reduction of unemployment and the quality of employment? Here are the statistics which we have to keep as statistics, as a social reality there. That is the reason of the investments I am about to announce, to keep the levels of employment and increase them, to keep on incorporating the youth to productive work.

There is chart number 4. For sure the bourgeois press will not say a word about this, because the bourgeois press has an objective which is to lead the people to demoralization provoking and effect of collective disillusionment, they do not

In which country with an economic decrease, in our case induced, unemployment is reduced and the variables of unemployment remain low and under control, and the quality of employment?

know how dangerous that is. You would not be able to control that people, if that people ever broke their love for the Revolution, you would not be able to control it, you do not have the political capacity and you do not understand the soul of the people. That is why we have said that the people must keep the ranks, in the idea, in the spirit of Chávez so as to keep moving in a positive way.

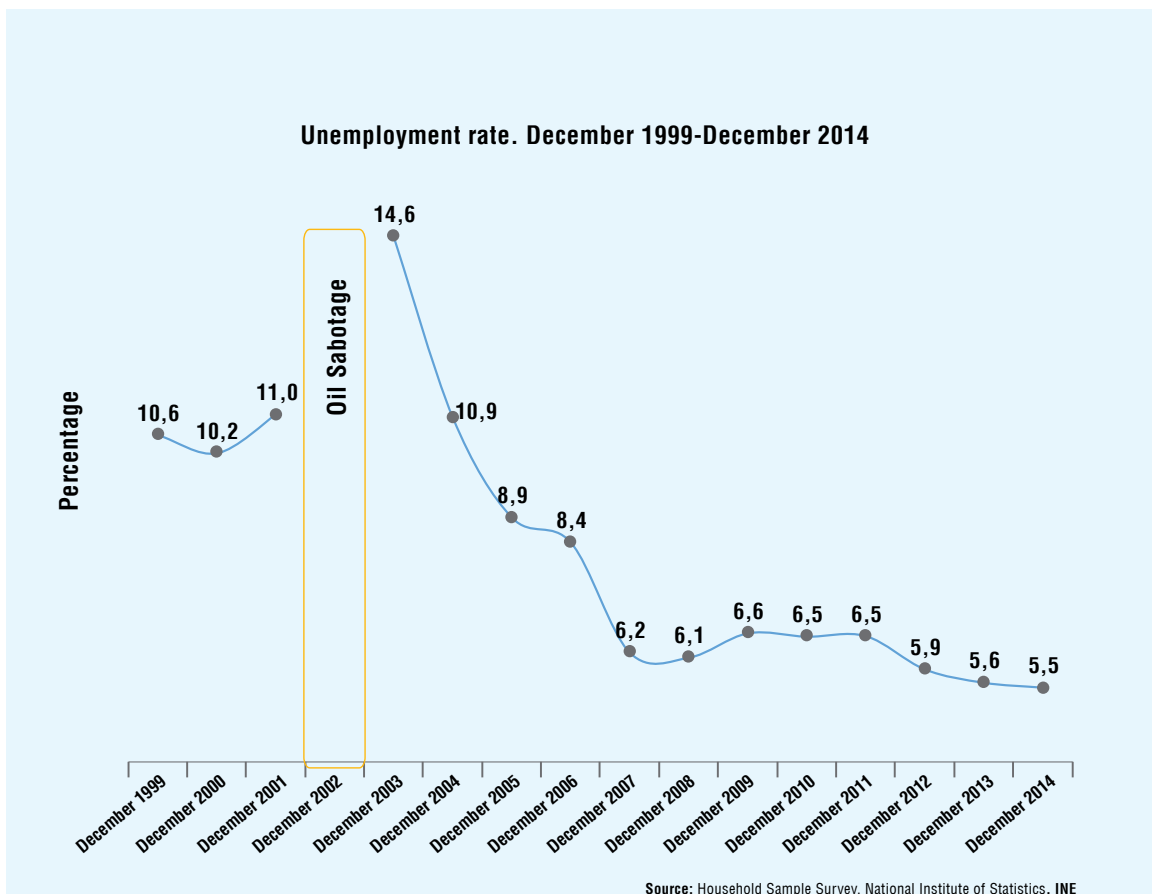
There is the chart, and we must care about public policies comrades, Minister of Industry, Minister of Agriculture, Vice president of Economy, Vice president of Security, Food sovereignty, Vice president of Territorial Socialism, minister, governors who work; devoting especially to the creation of employment, the consolidation of protected constructive employment, deeply human and productive. Here it is at the closing, we have come from year 2007 keeping regularity

in the closing of December 2012; we remember our Commander in his serious illness, we closed with 5, 9 of open unemployment, December 2013: 5, 6. And the heroic year 2014, subject to “guarimbas”, attacks, attempt of Coup d’ état, we have close with 5, 5, official figures of open unemployment. That is good news because it represents the effort of millions of people.

I do not say it is the result of the government’s efforts, it is the effort of entrepreneurs who love this country and are producing; they are producing. We are in contact with them. Entrepreneurs from the countryside, from the city, small and middle industry, and also the Bolivarian Government’s investment effort and the protection of employment.

In the same way, chart 5, I can share with you the youth unemployment rate,

The Revolution has the capacity to learn, innovate and adapt, always, always, since the very first day we wrote this Constitution.



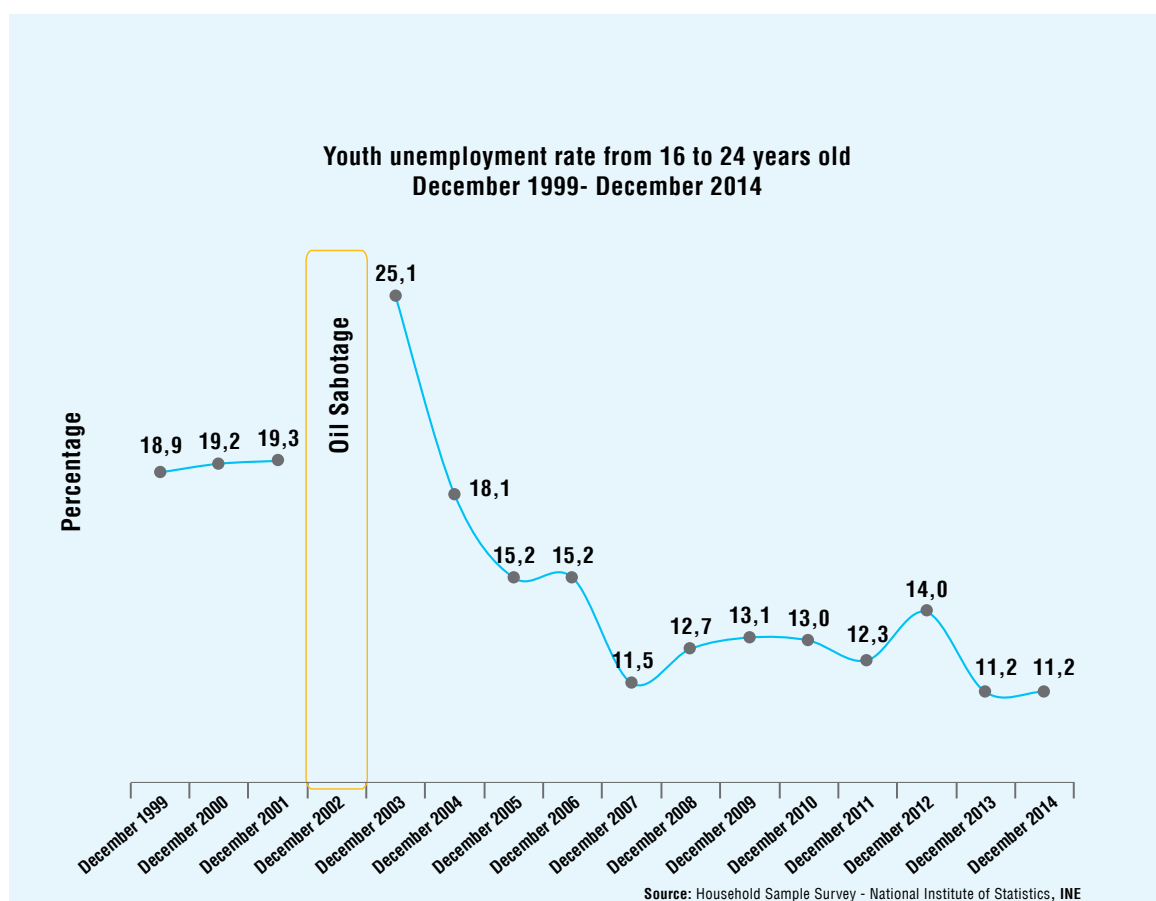
which is a matter of great interest. Our Vice president Héctor Rodríguez has been meeting with the youth movements in the country discussing the Law of youth I enacted by the habilitation and our Minister of Youth and Sports too, Don “Petro” Álvarez. They have been taking care and we have been able to keep the still high rate of 11, 2 still high, very high. I truly hope that with the investment we are going to put in the Mission Youth of the Country, which has the name of Robert Serra, we are able to reduce by one third that unemployment by the end of this year 2015.

Is it possible? Do the youth commit to accomplish this goal?

At the same time, beside the employment, in the face of an induced inflation, a brutal speculation from the criminal economy, it is our duty to defend the workers’ income at all levels. The formula? Sometimes there have been some

differences in the ranks of the Great Patriotic Coalition; I am going to say it. For sure it will make front page in the papers tomorrow. But we are transparent and that is the way we want to be. We are together in spite of our differences and we learn from one another, and we are happy that way.

Sometimes there have been some demands coming from some party member of the coalition because I decreed a general increase of salary. In other sectors sometimes they made demands without knowing, because some of the people who do that have never worked. Truly, let me tell you. The raise of minimum wage plus the food ticket have allowed us to care about the income and the different scales of access to work and have let us assimilate the economy we have; I assimilated those incomes without damaging employment and the development of en-





terprises, especially the small and middle industry.

It is a concept I consider has been just. It is just and it is correct, that it could be revised in the future with another economic dynamics, OK. The Revolution has the capacity to learn, innovate and adapt, and always, always, since the very first day we wrote this Constitution, many social right seemed impossible to attain; one of them was a salary raise in keeping with inflation or over the annual inflation, what we had called the moving salary scale, which was denied for decades and we received bullets and beating in the streets for fighting for a moving salary scale, did we not? The trade union leaders present here today know a lot about that, starting by Oscar Figuera, trade union leader since 1940.

That is why some fellow countrymen who are listening to me could say: “But it is not enough”, they could perfectly say it before attack of the speculation mafias, and they are right. But we have to defend first the right to work, to stability and secondly to adjust income in hard times of high inflation – as we see it in the old neo-liberal capitalist model-, we lived years of 100 percent, 104 percent and the Monetary Fund and Fedecámaras said “ No raise” and there was no raise for anyone.

With the socialist model we adjust, making an investment effort to defend income.

In defense of employment and income, as soon as we manage to recover the rate of economic growth, when we manage to control the thousand demons of the economic war, be sure that the

defense of work and income will enable Venezuela to have the most prosperous working class in Latin America. That is our goal, to have prosperous workers and a prosperous middle class, prosperous for its capacity to produce, and an economy that supports those real investments. Here it is, they are combined.

In chart 6 you can see how since 1998-1999 the cost of the basic normative food crossed knowing they are disturbed. Today I am most certain that this normative food is disturbed by the brutal spec-

ulation of these mafias which has seized the systems of distribution and commerce of the economy, 6, 916 is the minimum legal income with the adjustments we made by the end of last year.

In chart 7 we can see the income per family which has brought about, as you well know, a very powerful market with a great capacity of consumption; that is part of the analysis we should make about the culture of consumption and the need for a bigger saving awareness. Here it is. This is the total average income per family and how it has been vertiginously growing; it is the only way to withstand the economic blows of the parasitic bourgeoisie, it is the only way to really defend the people, and this is the reality of Venezuela, and in the eighth place, here you can see, from the year 74 to 1998 in the capitalism, especially in the neo liberal model- we are talking about 24 years- barely nine salary increases were granted, all, all of them way below the inflation at that time and the speculation, too.

In times of Revolution I think we have broken a record. I believe no other coun-

try in the world has such a protection system of income as ours and it is a system that Commander Hugo Chávez himself began to draw since 2010, to watch over the income at different times of the year and having that increase affect neither the income nor employment, but benefit workers, and in 15 years of Revolution we have carried out 28 salary increases at the same level of inflation or even over the inflation.

These are very important element we wanted to share with you, among others which could be discussed in the National Assembly. We believe they were the essential elements about the distribution of income, of investment that allow us to build up a society that moves on along the roads of justice and equality, one that has social antibodies to withstand economic difficulties that come, created, or super-vene as is the case of the prices of oil.

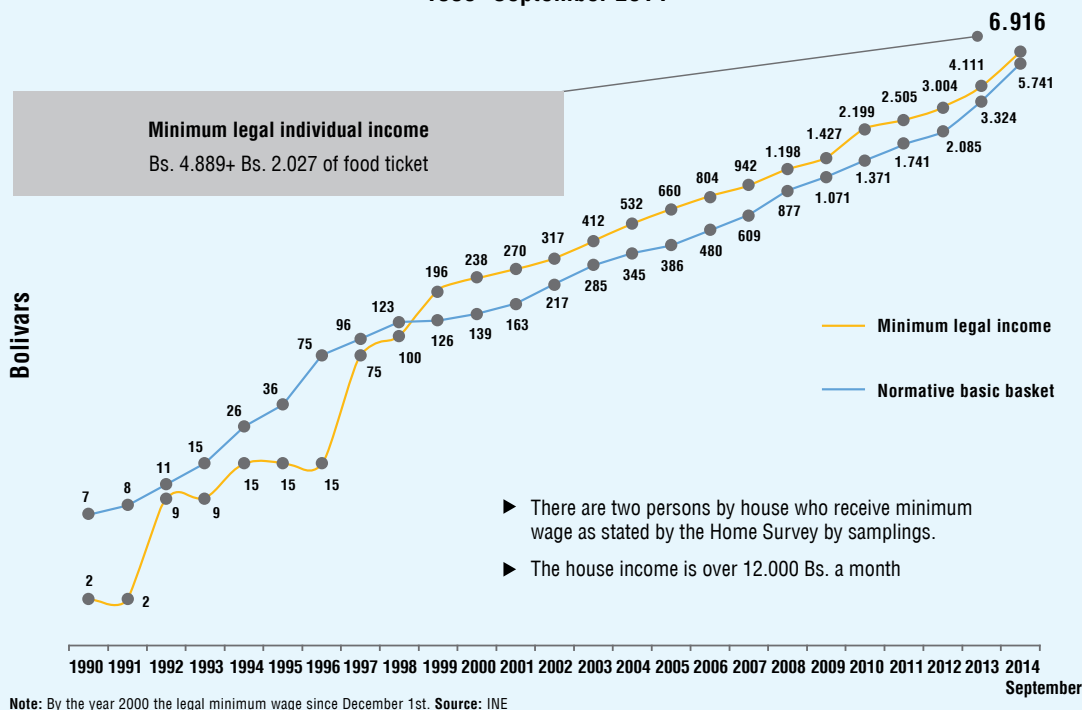
EEUU and oil as a geopolitical weapon

Did you know that he prices of oil in the last months of 2014 seriously collapse and Venezuela's oil basket which was about 90,92, 93 dollars a barrel with which we supported all the investment, imports, etc..., went down to 40 dollars or even under 40 dollars a barrel? Yesterday it closed at 38, today it closed at 38, and it has been moving between 38 and 40 dollars a barrel in the last week.

The main factor, as you know, is the flooding of oil coming from the hydraulic fractioning – scher oil, schist, frack-ing, those are different ways they call it in the world-, the flooding the United states provoked which president Obama said yesterday- you saw president Obama's speech, did you not?, it was completely

All Venezuelans have the responsibility of assuming a commitment to face these difficulties, to keep up this rate of social investment, to guarantee education, health...

Minimum legal wage and the normative basic basket 1990- September 2014



broadcast on Telesur -, yesterday president Obama presented as one of the achievements of his government the gas and oil power they have accumulated in the last 5 or 6 years by the method of hydraulic fracturing.

As you know it is a very harmful method, it is very destructive, I could add many element we know today as to how the earth crust is being destroyed in the United States, as to how in an average oil field that in any country member of our OPEC could be exploited by using 1, 2 drills; in these so called schist fields they use 40, 60, 100 drills – If you see an image on Google earth – you can do it now on the phone, you can have access to Google earth – you can see how states, places in the States of the Union look as if they had measles. They are ripping the United States apart.

It is the madness that led them to war in Iraq and to the assassination of more than

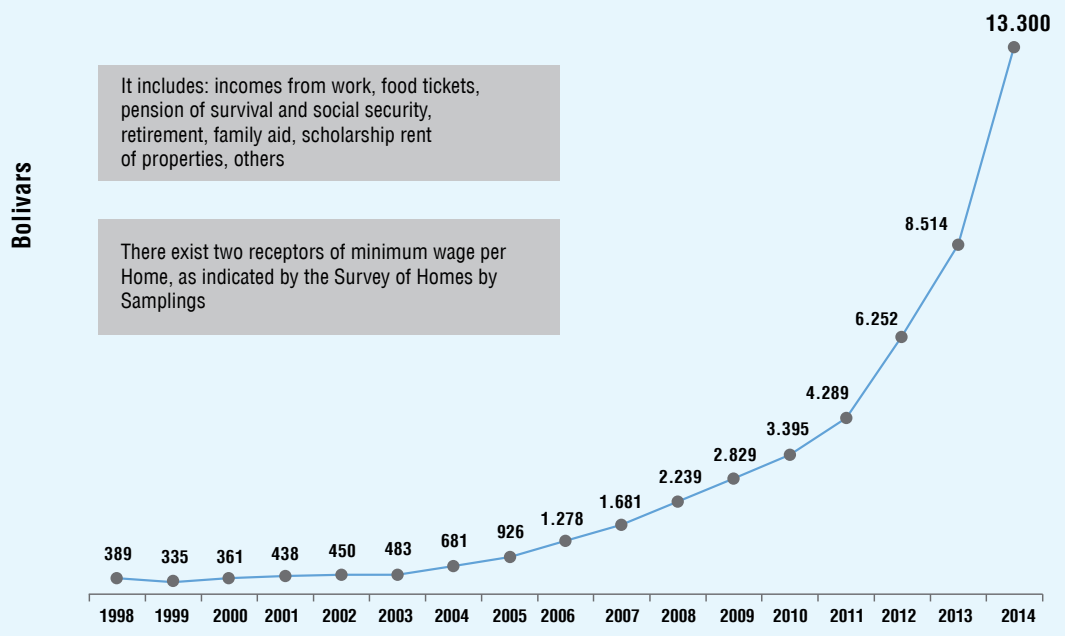
one million Iraqis, the madness that led them to the destruction of Lybia. Lybia is now splitted into I do not know how many groups and they infected and filled it with terrorism. Commander Chávez foresaw that and alerted from here now look at the consequences; it is the same madness that led the government of George Bush to support the coup d' état against Commander Chávez here in 2002; Iraq, Venezuela Lybia; it is the same madness that is leading them to try to overthrow Bashar Al Assar president of our sister Arab Republic of Syria. If they ever made it -they have not been able to do it and them never will- the problem of terrorism would worsen to unthinkable level. It is the same madness that leads to control de energy sources.

Just imagine my fellow countrymen, speaking among countrymen, I am sure we all love our country and hope

The economic war declared against the people aims at overthrowing me. It has been carried out by mafia groups who control the distribution of products and the commerce of vital products for the people.



Total average income per home 1998 - 2014



It includes: incomes from work, food tickets, pension of survival and social security, retirement, family aid, scholarship rent of properties, others

There exist two receptors of minimum wage per Home, as indicated by the Survey of Homes by Samplings

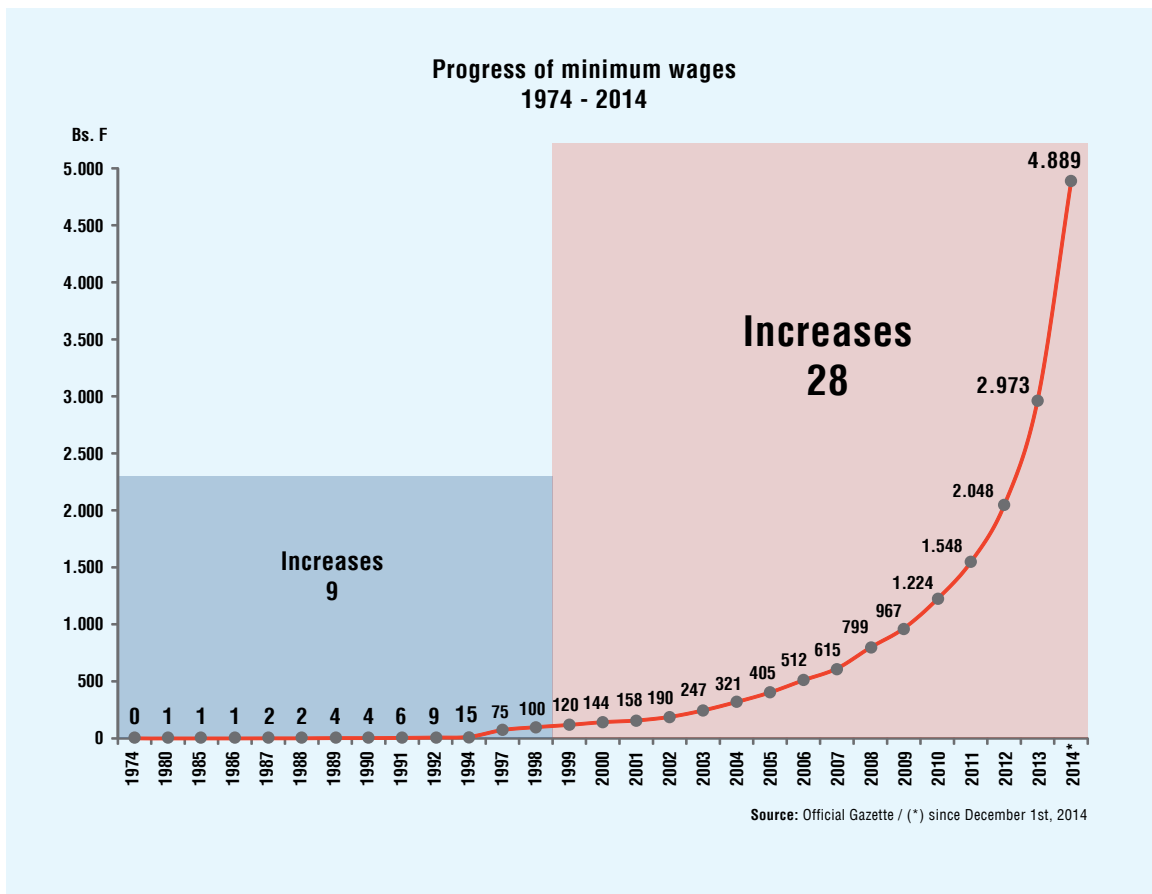
Source: Household Sample Survey – INE

the best for Venezuela. Just imagine if the United States of America ever controlled Venezuela again and lay a hand on the biggest oil reservoir in the planet, the Orinoco Oil Strip, today by the name of Hugo Chávez. Imagine what they could do to the world. They would try to divert the political, geopolitical and geoeconomic course of the world. There is, as a showcase. They managed to increase their production from 5 million, 5, 4 to 9, 5 by means of schist and they do what no country member of our beloved OPEC has ever done, to use oil as a geopolitical weapon to influence their dominance positions in the world. In the first place, to attack Russia, to try to get it on its knees, to destroy it in a crazy race towards a new kind of Cold War.

A brutal psychological war was carried out; a national strike was announced, it was said there was going to be a coup d' état, that they would not allow me to return from my trip.

Secondly, to try to harm Iran. Iran with its heroic history of struggle, millenary in its just negotiations to have access to nuclear energy and, thirdly, to try to affect and destroy Venezuela's economy. That is the plain truth. That is why I made this tour in defense of our oil. That is why I made this tour, to take the reality of Venezuela to our brother members of OPEC, to our brothers in Russia, to defend the oil market, to recover the oil prices, for whom? At the service of the people of Venezuela.

That is why it is important to be aware of the economic difficulties we have, serious difficulties with income, and all Venezuelans are responsible of assuming a commitment to face those difficulties, to keep the rate of social investment, to



guarantee education, health, the right of our people to have access to food, to keep the levels of employment. We are all responsible.

There are some who rejoice thinking they can take advantage of the situation the Republic is going through. I appeal to the moral of the people of Venezuela, this is the people of the liberators, and this is the people who, through centuries, has set examples as of how big obstacles and big difficulties can be overcome. I call all Venezuelans to close ranks in this battle for the economic rebirth of our country, in this battle against difficulties, now with this reduction in the prices of oil, in the battle to optimize investments for the economic and social growth. I call upon Venezuela to unite, union for work, union for the prosperity of all.

It is time of union of work, let us not be disturbed. Elections take place every year, this year we have parliamentary elections, next year we will have other elections; in 2017 we will have elections again, and in 2018 again, in the 2020. Let us not be disturbed. Elections are political appointments of society. Now economy, the creation of wealth, the distribution of that wealth is an everyday task is an everyyear task, beyond elections, beyond political appointments.

Iron hand against hoarders and conspirators

I believe in working together. Some people tell me the model has to be changed. I answered Luis Vicente León, who I respect; he is a leader of opinion. I would like to answer some political leader of the opposition, but the things they write are not worth answering. How am I going to

answer? I truly tell you, I know you feel the same way I do, but you cannot say it. But there are some political leaders in the opposition who sometimes on Twitter disgrace themselves. I am returning from a tour looking for consensus to defend the market and the prices of oil and there is one that asks me if I brought him milk. That shows lack of seriousness, lack of maturity. I know you feel the same, I do. That is why I answer an opinion leader as Luis Vicente León, so as to discuss with someone who represents your ideas and defends capitalism.

That is OK, Luis Vicente León, defend capitalism, alright, we respect you all of us have a space in Venezuela. I told him about changing the model of distribution of wealth and he answered, "I am not proposing to change the socialist model". The answer took me by surprise. I am proposing to change the model of distribution and commerce in the Venezuelan economy, because it has been two years, almost two years of my term as President. The economic war declared against the people aims at overthrowing me. It has been carried out by mafia groups who control the distribution of products and the commerce of vital products for the people. I know, they began in 2013, June, I marked the date. The first time I had seen a despicable thing, well they hid toilet paper, June, 2013 and then said "there is no toilet paper, but we have our homeland". Remember?

Afterwards they hid the pre-cooked cornmeal; it was such a barbarian thing until we acted on the plants, and so on. Then, in 2014, the same thing. A war meant to hide the products to upset the people. They hide diapers when the in-

vestment for the production and import guarantee a full supply of that item which is very sensitive for the Venezuelan family, because we know what means having a baby, going out to the streets and find out diapers have been hidden.

I ordered to check all those stores, from tomorrow on a new offensive starts to inspect all the distributors in the country, and all the wholesalers in this country. We are going to be firm, he who wants to work, welcome, but he who wants to sabotage will feel the burden of law. We are going to squeeze up to the limit we can. I request the people's support.

I ask for support because one thing is they think people are fools. There have been dialogues. Here is Hiram Gaviria, a deputy I also respect. Our Commander Chávez respected him too, harsh in his criticism, very harsh, severe in his criticism. I always read them, harsh. Some of it is right some other is not. Dialogue, sure yes, I heard an opinion from Henri Falcón, governor of the state of Lara. It is time for dialogue. Henri Falcón, more dialogue?

I went out of the country on this necessary, very necessary tour, and when I was there in China something crazy got into the extremist sectors, something like beriberi. Ah, but the extremist sectors get crazy and the rest follows as in a procession. We were discussing with distributors and an enterprise, I am not going to name it for respect for people on their condition of human beings, because they are under investigation, you saw it, you saw the confiscation of 8 large warehouses in different places of the country, Puerto La Cruz, here in Caracas, el Zulia.





The Vice president was there, I left in charge the minister of the Presidency and Vice president of Food Security and Sovereignty, I was in touch and they sent me reports about all the business sectors who sat down to talk. That enterprise was sitting there saying they were willing to work; when we got the information, they had had all kinds of vital products for months there: diapers, milk, all the items they are hiding to upset the people as part of an economic war we have to reject, we must condemn.

So, we have to act, comrade deputy Diosdado Cabello, comrade Vice president, deputies. I invite you to do it together, let us go out to the streets with the people

to inspect everything to regularize everything, to establish levels of control so that the people's supply is respected.

Something similar happened to Salvador Allende. Some days ago President Rafael Correa sent out some messages about that issue. I have some videos there, but I am not going to show them. I will donate them to Los mazazos (sledge hammer blows) to Diosdado's TV program who is going to play them later. I have some other videos about the time when Henry Kiss-

As part of this program of economic recovery, I have also launched a group of initiatives to favor the substitution of imports and the rational use of foreign convertible currency.

inger said: "We have to make the Chilean economy squeal". That was said by Henry Kissinger, not a screw for the Chilean economy.

President Allende did not have all the possibilities we have today, economic and the military-civilian unity Venezuela has today. He did have a people. President Allende did have a people, because he was a president who the Chilean people loved. He was betrayed and murdered by fascists. He was subject to war of attrition. They said to him "Allende go. Allende we have no bread because of you", "We have no diapers because of you", the same. Not only they did that to Allende, but to Joao Goulart as well in 1964 in Brazil; they also did it. Jacobo Arbenz, in 1954, they also did it to Juan Bosch in the Dominican Republic, in 1966, it is a modus operandi.

My fellow countrymen. Let us solve this. Let us set to it, and, in a year's time, when I am standing here, I will be able to say with full satisfaction that the year 2015 has been the year of victory, the year of the economic rebirth of this country of the economic renewal. I ask support to all those who love this country and want economic prosperity; I ask for support in spite all the political differences we may have.

Notice how dangerous this situation of the 7, 8 and 10 of January was. Those days, 18 million people went out shopping. First it means there are people with big purchase capacity, a very big purchase capacity. Eighteen million people bought what would normally be bought in a month and a half and some groups were ready, as I am going to show now, there are lots of proves.

The public prosecutor's office has allowed me to show parts of the proves we have, they pretended to act to create a general commotion in the country. A brutal psychological war was carried out; a na-

tional strike was announced, it was said there was going to be a coup d' état, that they would not allow me to return from my trip. An uneasy situation was created and the first weeks of the year which are always of slow return to normality, because most people are on vacations and they go back to work little by little. Well a situation of critical point was created and our people taught them a lesson.

I have said it several times. Our generation is a daughter of the 27 and 28 of February, 1989. Many of us, many comrades lived the 27 and the 28 of February. March 1st, Wednesday March 1st, Thursday March 2nd, Las Vegas, Caricua, San Agustín, El Valle, Petare. We know about pain, and from that pain stemmed this Revolution. A lot of pain from decades of abandonment converged there, plunder, exploitation, deceit against people; the least we could favor, tolerate or hope for is the creation of social exploitation. I am sure the overwhelming majority of our people who remember those deeds and their causes think this way and love peace.

There were sector of the extreme right wing that was ready to generate this and our people taught them a lesson.

I truly want to thank on behalf of the Bolivarian Government and the people the act of conscience, of love for peace. Beyond their dissatisfactions, annoyance, discomfort, the rage they have to feel. I feel the same dear fellow countrymen, but I also feel the strength to work to stabilize the economic situation of our country.

I ask this Assembly for permission to show a video with some proves, I have to

I only request unity and nobody trying to get undue advantage for projects without viability in the Venezuela of the XXI, to damage our country.



show it because I want to make an appeal, once again I want to appeal to the democratic sectors of the Venezuelan opposition, not to follow adventurous agendas of despair; to be able to get back to the road of dialogue for the country, to touch their heart and be able to contribute to the great task of the economic recovery of the country, in spite of the differences we have.

I want to show a video about how some sector prepared since December, and still dream, this time from jail, because they are already detained, they still dream of taking our country to chaos, to violence. Let us watch this video, very important for our discussions.

This is just a part of the materials of investigations of groups of the extreme right wing, who have been planning an escalate of violence since December

to attack the people in their most inner feelings. I call for an early demarcation from the economic destabilization plans against the country and to unite for work. I stretch out my hand to all those who want to work; for all those who want to do it, but I also show an iron fist to those who want to harm our country. They will find the hard iron fist of the law. Do not make that mistake.

So do not say those are political prisoners. Both of them are in prison! One of them had some facilities at home and from home said all those atrocities, and expert as he claims in psychological warfare, in terrorism, there he was then in the School of the Americas. He feels proud of being a hound dog of the School of the Americas. And the other one is already in prison. Now they will surely say he is political prisoners and they were trying to

destroy the Mercal, the Pdval, los Abastos Bicentenario (state-owned centers for the distribution of products at fair prices). Had it not been for our people and of Bolivarian Armed Forces who went out to protect our people those days from 8 to 12 of January. What would have happened? Is that the Venezuela we want? Is that the Venezuela that is going to lead the opposition to take power in this country? I do not think so.

If one day you draw up a sound proposition, be welcome.

Hence, the big question I was asking at the beginning of these words, the one I ask all experts. I have been receiving documents from experts during the last two months, some of them, for sure are watching this meeting. Some of them recommend certain things. I tell them, hold on, technically what you say is correct, but with these economic sectors it is impossible to think about those technical recommendations... With this group of economists I have decided to conform a special group for dialogue, debate and advice for the Economic Headquarters I preside and I am going to summon economists, national and international experts, and I have asked the entrepreneur, president of Fedeindustrias, Miguel Pérez Abad to coordinate this special group of national and international advisors and invite all the school of economy to join it.

Welcome, here are illustrious economists such as Ricardo Sanguino, over there is Rodrigo Cabezas, and also Jesús Farías is here. They have devoted to the study of economy. But I summon all of them, because I have seen true concern in some sectors which are not from the left. They are not revolutionary, but they

have recommendations. I want to listen to them all. I want to exchange opinions, because the economy of the country belongs to Venezuela, and I want it to become a power, I dream of a powerful country, of a productive Venezuela. And I think my dream is the dream of all Venezuelans, It is a shared dream.

It is my only hope to contribute from my modest position of a worker, of a man who comes from the people. I am not a bourgeois, nor is my intention to become one, not in this life or in any other life. I hope to be what I am, just a worker, and a man from the people.

Now, as long as I am the captain of this great ship that is our homeland, I hope to do my best so that Venezuela improves its own model of economic development, to overcome the model sustained mostly on the oil revenues and to create each time more the productive bases in the countryside, there will not be true independence if we do not develop the countryside and if we do not produce what goes to the table of each Venezuelan.

There is good statistics about the recovery of some items, but in others we still do not consolidate the take off, we have to strive to consolidate them and summon all those who want to produce. I am certain that some sectors in the countryside, which have a productive tradition and have settled there, are not thinking of destroying their capacities. I stretch out my hand to them. I want to work and learn from them in the fields.

The industrial sector also has my hand. The sector of honest commerce also have my hand, I open the doors of

In China we just settled some agreements to bring investments and set up industries exclusively related to the Grand Mission Barrio Nuevo Barrio Tricolor.

Miraflores. I will open them a thousand times because I'll never get tired of calling for dialogue, to unitary work. Do you know why I never get tired? Because I am a son of Chávez. I never get tired in the idea of dialogue in the idea of democracy, the idea of unitary construction. That is why I never get tired, because it is the school of the teacher.

Comprehensive plan of social and economic assistance 2015

This is a year of challenges. I launched a program of economic recovery that is still being executed. Because we figured out the cost of the barrel at 60 dollars and we have it at 40. We are building are consensus among OPEC and non-OPEC countries. I want to thank all the governments of the OPEC countries for the support they have given us is this endeavor.

I also want to congratulate the Ministry of Foreign Relations, Delcy Rodríguez and the Minister of Oil, Asdrúbal Chávez who were in Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Norway, Kasajtan, all this in a short period of time. On one side I was visiting the countries while the other comrades were doing the same, humble men and women from this country as are all the members of the Cabinet of the Revolutionary Government. We figured out the barrel at 60 and now it is 40. But be sure boys, girls, students, workers, men and women of culture, the national budget is going to be fully accomplished

and no school is going to lack a Bolívar not any university, sports center, cultural center or healthcare center.

How are we going to do it? Working generating new sources with the habilitant law and a moderate fiscal reform I made.

There are still big tasks ahead for a more profound reform. Yes, I assume them. Now it is up to the National Assembly to do them this year. I, foreseeing, did some that will enable us to get some important income to cover the budget investments. As part of this program of economic recovery, I have also launched a group of initiatives to favor the substitution of imports and the rational use of foreign

convertible currency. There is less currency from 96 dollars a barrel to 40. But e will never lack God. God will provide!

We will find the resources and we have found resources to keep the country running. We are already creating a number of ways of investment in the oil sector in the frame of the Constitution and the law to increase the participation of international partners. In the investment on the Orinoco Oil Strip, in the Special Economic Zones we have developed a first and very successful seminar for the activation of the three Special Economic Zones. The first three, the ones in Paraguaná, Cúcuta and Maicao and in the Orinoco Oil Strip. Fifty international enterprises have come and all of them gave their approval to enter, invest and participate in the Special Economic Zones we are creating to attract investment.

It is true we have suffered the attack of an induced and speculative inflation. Within all these schemes we have talked about today, it is my responsibility to protect employment and investment and I have the obligation of watching over the incomes (of workers).



And we have also moved in the field of funding with China and other international partners. God will always be there. Venezuela will never lack the protection of God Creator to keep up its progress. While we recover, in the new trends of the oil market, we moderately recover the price of oil. The price of oil will never get to 100, it will not. So, we have to produce, substitute imports, and generate new sources of currency for the country. Either we do it or we do it, but we have to do it. Our country has the right to development, to keep social investment, to life. And only, that is the way I think, and so I say it, and only with the Simón Bolívar Project, the Plan of our Homeland, our country will face up these turbulences and attain victory. I truly believe it.

It will not be returning to the formulas of the National Monetary Fund; it will not be returning to the formulas of the neoliberal capitalism; it will not be with a right –wing government as a result of destabilization and coup that our country will face the turbulences we are facing. Are there difficulties? Yes there are, and we have a plan to deal with them; we count on a people to fight them, we have the will and the decision to fight them. We have the experience to fight them.

I only request unity and nobody trying to get undue advantage for projects without viability in the Venezuela of the XXI, to damage our country. It will not be the ones who try to get advantages of these difficulties the

That means that the Republic must invest its dollars to protect society, to protect its economy.

ones who will profit, if they ever destabilize this country. The power of the world would fall on them. There are some here who have seen the face of the world powers and how they share the pieces of Venezuela. They know that is the way it is.

In the face of these difficulties, I want to propose to you, deputies, a set of comprehensive decisions, a comprehensive plan of social and economic attention for the year 2015 that allows us to use as an advantage the progress in the model of just distribution our country already has, as an advantage to put a firebreak, a big protection barrier on the economic and social threats against our people.

Our great advantage is the model we have, the model we have built, we have to defend it, we have to deepen it, and we have to correct what should be corrected, where we have made an evident mistake we must have the courage to rectify to correct them. That is why I want to announce a set of investments, of decisions in the social area, in infrastructure and economy.

Firstly in the social area, in 2015 we are going to implement a special plan for the protection of the Venezuelan family through the Grand Mission Homes of the Country, aiming at protecting along this year, with comprehensive policies of attention to children, reinforcement of the pensions for families, the Venezuelan women, and the protection of 500 thousand families in 2015. That is why I summon, for January 31st and February 2nd (Saturday and Sunday), 7th and 8th of February a big national census of the

Grand Mission Homes of the Country. Women of the Country I summon you so that we can integrate all the projects that have already been passed with resources and achieve the goal of 500 thousand homes in 2015.

Secondly, the Mission Youth of the Country, Robert Serra. Last year we passed the Law of the Productive Youth, which is already been implemented. We were involved in the process of recruiting and training of 23 thousand activists from the Grand Mission who will visit all

We have to protect, we have to conduct the economy the best way possible, cautiously and protect everything we can, because the dollars of the Republic are produced by the Republic.

the bases of Socialist Missions and the field of the protection of the Venezuelan youth. Well, today I have decided to approve the resources to increase up to 200 thousand scholarships for Secondary School students and raise it from 200 bolivars to 500 bolivars. 200 thousand scholarships

for lyceum student in the country.

At the same time, concerning youth, I want to announce the increase of 30 percent on university scholarships, which would be raised up to 2 thousand bolivars, average, and the increase of 250 thousand scholarships for university student in our country

Needless to say, as we said in 2013, university students, 2014, this year all the budget investments are guaranteed, all of them, for the functioning of our universities. There is a group of collective contracts to be discussed. Workers, professors, I have ordered the Minister of Labor to activate the commissions and to the Minister of Higher Education to continue the debate, in this context, all the



collective contracts of our workers at all levels, employees, professors.

Likewise, in the field of housing, in 2014 we reached the goal of 673 thousand 416 houses already granted. The ultimate goal, as you know: 3 million in 2019. Well, if we want to achieve this goal, this year we have to complete and give 400 thousand houses, and for that reason I am approving an investment of 204 thousand 978 million bolivars of direct investment from the public and private banks. These recourses are already activating to achieve the goal of 400 thousand houses.

Within the program of the Grand Mission Barrio Nuevo Barrio Tricolor, we have been outlining the goals for 2015. In 2013, the last trimester, in 2014, we managed to activate 127 "corridors" (areas for people's recreation and sports) that ben-

efit a little more than one million family, General Quevedo must be around here, a little more than one million people one million 100 thousand families. This is a wonderful program.

In China we just settled some agreements to bring investments and set up industries exclusively related to the Grand Mission Barrio Nuevo Barrio Tricolor. We have set the goal, and I am approving the resources for 2015, of raising corridors from 127 to 200 for the benefit of more millions of people.

It is a comprehensive strategy to protect the family, the homes of the country, to protect our young students, to thrust this powerful Mission Vivienda Venezuela (Venezuela Housing Mission) which generates a great economic development, to encourage this Grand Mission Barrio



Nuevo Barrio Tricolor to continue the social development of our country.

At the same time I have approved investments in the area of infrastructure for the Vice presidency of Territorial Socialism and for the Minister Haiman El Troudi.

These are special investments within the anti-cyclic for the development of infrastructure, creation and protection of employment and the direct impact it has: housing, infrastructure, Grand Mission Barrio Nuevo Barrio Tricolor to care for, to improve even more those index of equality, stability, employment, of income, that is why the special plans I requested from the Cabinet which I announced in December within the program of economic recovery.

There is a special plan of investment on infrastructure to complete important

works which are already being executed. That is why I announce the approval of 59 thousand 575 million bolivars for special investment on infrastructure and 911 million dollars for this special infrastructure plan which would lead us to the completion of line 5 of the Caracas Subway. We are going to open it this year; to the opening of new subway stations in Valencia, of the Ayacucho subway station of Los Teques Subway, the opening of La Dolorita Metrocable, -yesterday we were remembering our Commander when he opened the first Metrocable in San Agustín-; the opening of 57 road works to solve traffic problems, bridges, viaducts, causeways lengthwise and crosswise the nation; to the opening this year of the Yutong Bus Factory, a shared investment with China.

And a number of plans which the Minister will explain in detail tomorrow within the plan so-called by experts anti-cyclic to watch over the economic growth, the levels of employment, and to continue moving towards the investment for the economic development of the country.

At the same time I want to announce to the workers of the country the elders, three very important things. The social strategy thrusts the economic strategy, the social protection of the people, the protection of the investments, the just model of the Venezuelan socialism. It is true we have suffered the attack of an induced and speculative inflation. Within all these schemes we have talked about today, it is my responsibility to protect employment and investment and I have the obligation of watching over the incomes.

According to the methodology to protect salaries, the income of workers, last year we raised salaries three times, including the food ticket. Well, this year we are going to do the first raise before May 1st, which is going to be effective on February 1st with 15 percent of the minimum wage of the Venezuelan workers and of all the pensions of our elders. At the same time we are going to establish, starting from February 1st with trimestral application, through the system of payment.

The Minister has the request there, you may send it to my office, I am going to approve the resources so that de additional credit request comes for the salary raise, the first one of this year of 15 percent for the workers of our country, an investment of 49 703 million bolivars, because here is the raise of the minimum

wage in the different scales of functionaries and of the salary tabulator of workers. I do not just stays in the minimum wage. It is a great effort which we must maintain and support in time.

We are going to sign the approval of all those resources....Approved!

At the same I want to make an announcement to protect our people who receive pensions. I have set the goal for 2015; 300 thousand new pensions must be incorporated to the plans of the Grand Mission Homes of the Country at a national level. 300 thousand pensions directly linked to the homes of the country. And we are going to activate, the team of ministers will see about details, a bonus of health for people who receive pensions through their own debit card, by punctually, as never before in history, our elders receive their pensions.

Pensions of hunger you gave, Oligarchs! To this people you despised Pensions of hunger! It is time. The time has come, and in the next few days we are going to establish the Presidential Council of the People's Power for the Elders of our country, our elders, I summon you.

In the economic are the money exchange system, about this issue there is a big debate. It is a debate about which the Venezuelans have to be well informed. It is evident there is a hard fall in the currency income of the country, and that forces us to optimize the income, to generate new sources of income while we the fundamental investments for the functioning of society, food, education, health, the functioning of economy.

I have been circulating a number of proposals. I have studied them all, all of

them. Proposals of different signs. Now, the dollars our Republic uses for its functioning, 95, 96 percent systematically since the exchange control was established, are dollars as product of the oil revenue and other incomes of the State. The so-called parallel market only moves 4 to 5 percent of the money exchange movement of the country. That is the way it was in 2014, included. That means that the Republic must invest its dollars to protect society, to protect its economy.

There are different theories about the exchange system. Technically speaking they may be right, but 2015 Venezuela is under a national and an international economic war, if it is not so, you tell me why sister national of the world suffering wars, in painful situations, are rated, by the famous risk/ country qualifying houses, better than Venezuela. They qualify Venezuela that way only for geopolitical reasons.

This argument is accepted by expert in the whole world, by national experts, many that you also consult. They know it is so. Before such circumstances, all the theories simply have to be dealt with through the vision of the defense of the interests of the country, as simple as that. I have given it thought, we have consulted it with experts, Nelson Merentes president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, and that is why I have decide to work on a system that deals with the three markets in a more efficient way.

The first market, or needs of the country, given that the dollars belong to the State, belong to our country, is the first market of the alimentary needs, of health, the fundamental things of the country, to guarantee it with a dollar at 6,30, we

have to keep it efficiently to invest it in the protection of our people. I have given that a lot of thought. In an economy subject to mechanisms of speculation and war, anything we do different from this, would be used to increase the factors of disturbance and internal war. We will see better times.

Secondly to keep the Sicad, just one Sicad which will be explained by our monetary authorities, which can be at the service of the other economic needs of the country, establishing market mechanisms through a system of auctions for its rating, and mechanisms of national interest. There will be just one Sicad.

To turn Sicad II into a new system, a system that operates through public stock markets and private stock markets where the public and the private sector concur, and handles that third market seeking through a balance of legal participation deals with something that has become a totally abrupt market, away from any economic rule and transactions can be made there, at that level, we could say in a legal way either the private sector offering or the public sector offering, as well as citizens looking for that market.

All this money exchange system is a transitory system to attend the needs of the economic development of the country during a period of investment, of recovery that allows the establishing of the fundamental factors of economy and attain a better efficiency and optimization in regard to the investment of hard currency in the country.

That is the decision I have made, a system of three markets: the prioritized system of 6, 30 to protect our economy and our society: a system of auction us-



ing the best of the experience of Sicad I, so-called; and a system of stock market where the private sector can participate, and so I call them, there is going to be a number of decisions to encourage the participation of private sectors in this stock system.

So this is the announcement I make about the money exchange system, and I request to improve it and stabilize it every time more, to perfect it. We have studied different models. There were some people who proposed, I am going to say it, though some people say I should not say it, but I have to comment it, because the most important thing is that people are informed and are aware of everything. That is very important. The guarantee of peace and the strength of peace we have shown all these years lie on the fact we

have an informed people. Let us make mistakes informing people and not the other way around.

There were people who proposed, different trend of thought, I am not going to name them because I do not know if they would get upset, people from the left, people from the other side, from the right, center, international analysts, friends, world economists who proposed just one rate of change, just one currency, some said at 30 other said 40 and to let that drift. That is not possible; it would be used as a weapon, as someone said over there that would be a collective suicide of the economy of the country. We have to protect, we have to conduct the economy the best way possible, cautiously and protect everything we can, because the dollars of the Republic are produced by the Republic.





Yes, we can, as it is my interest, to create a dynamic system where the private sector brings its resources, guaranteed, even guaranteed. We were talking with the Vice president of Economy, Marcos Torres; we have created all the conditions so they can have their accounts in dollars in Venezuela or convertible currency, in Euros, in Yuans, that these accounts in convertible currency receive remuneration in public and private banks that can be used for investment.

There are some who have proposed we launch a number of incentives to attract the investment in convertible currency of the resources that some Venezuelan banks have abroad, I do not refuse to do it, I would agree to do it, but for that it is necessary to create conditions of trust, and I am willing to create them. I leave in the hands of the Economic Cabinet the explanation of all those steps.

Sincerity and national conscience

Likewise, the issue of gasoline, you know that as a result of the policies for the protection of the people, along the years, the price of gasoline is the lowest in the world market, there is not one price lowest. It is a price that covers practically nothing. We pay for it to be put in the tank of the cars; it does not cover a minimum. But besides, every Venezuelan who has owns a car knows that at the moment of servicing his car, he always fills up the tank, I do not know, with 5, 6bolivars, 3 bolivars, 4 bolivars, and he leaves a 10 bolivar bill or a 20 bolivar bill. That is a distortion. I sincerely say it here, you can crucify or kill me, and you can do me away: it is a distortion.

We all come from the street, from the struggle, from many years of struggle and we know how sensitive that issue is. There cannot be irresponsible decision, hasty decisions or technocratic decision about the issue of internal combustibile. I have said it; we do not need that income. It is

an exaggeration, O.K, but it is a pedagogical exaggeration. Of course we need that income. When I say that income is not needed, it means there is no rush of any kind to make decisions that may affect the economic stability of the country. Here things are thought over in keeping with the national interest.

In this speech I want to state the need of a regime of balanced prices, of just prices which allow us to charge the gasoline sold at the national market in a balanced way, a just way, according to a new standard. I think we need to make that step, and I open the issue to debate here at the National Assembly. I commission the Executive Vice president, Jorge Arreaza to come to this National Assembly to explain the detail of the proposal we are going to present the country, and I call upon everybody, I call upon the workers, the peasants, the entrepreneurs, youth, artists, the military, women, I call upon every one for a debate about this issue, this year, to do it without rush, but do it. I assume the responsibility before the country, all the responsibility, I do not want to evade it, and I assume criticism, let them say whatever they say, but I think time has come.

Besides all those resources would eventually come to support the investments in the homes of our country, in the Bases of the Socialist Missions, salaries and creation of employment. In the Organic Law of Missions I approved by the Habilitant law, I created the fund of Missions and Grand Missions for those resource to be used the day we make that decision.

I have commissioned Minister Haiman El Troudi to chair a presidential commission to meet with all sectors, transportation in the first place, brothers and sisters

from transportation, bus drivers, moto-taxi drivers, taxi drivers, truckers, Jeep drivers, comrades, comrades colleagues, I call upon you, as we are already dialoguing, debating, because it is a factor, you know, whatever I have to do to support you, and that this decision do not lead to raise in the transportation fares.

I am ready to do it dear comrades of public transportation and freighters. A the same time student, university students, lyceum students, let us debate this, young men, young women, worker, agriculture workers, let us do it, this can only be done this way in a revolution, because it is done facing the sun, everybody looking at one another in the eyes, and we face it. It is a situation we have to face.

I have been thinking it over a lot, let me tell you. I told José Vicente Rangel in the interview in December, closing of the year, that time had not come, and that was the way I saw it and assessed it at that time. I think the time has come to do it. I trust national conscience; I trust the conscience of the country about this issue and the rest of the issues about the economic for this year 2015. I appeal one and a thousand times to conscience, unity and work.

We have been working on a number of things; it all has to be part of a comprehensive strategy for the strengthening of the Mission and Grand Missions, for the investments on infrastructure, housing, promotion of quality employment, protected youth employment, defense of income, comrade worker, of development, in the case, for instance, of the Alimentary Mission. What would happen in Venezuela were it not for the Casas de Alimentación, Mercal, Pdval, Abastos Bicentenario (Places created by the Government to

meet the alimentary needs of the people at prices lower than in the rest of the stores). They would have led us to serious and dangerous disturbances.

That is why one of the central lines of investment are the investments on the strengthening, comrade minister for Alimentation, comrade minister of Agriculture, Vice president of Security and Alimentary Sovereignty, comrade Iván Gil, who is around, Chief of all the financial services for agricultural development.

Now we are going to proceed, and so I announce it, next Saturday 24th we are going to launch a special national fair of equipping and supply for the people in all the states of the country and we are going to inaugurate 33 markets of Abastos Bicentenario, Pdval, Abastos Venezuela and Mercal which already to be delivered to the communities. Thirty three works that meant an investment of 345 million bolivars, in 2014, which are already completed. Next Saturday we will deploy all day. First thing in the morning all the governors will be sending a message to our people, of conscience, to stop consumerism.

There is one thing that has emerged- I also brought a video, but I am not going to show it, because this has taken much time, the professionals of lines (lines to buy products at stores) They had appeared in the Zulia and in the Táchira, and overnight, it has spread all over the country. Have you wondered who sponsors them? Where do the abundant resources in bolivars come from to sponsor such an amount of people? We detected and capture a person that in one day went shopping three hundred times.

I have ordered the Service of People's Protection of Peace, the SP3, and Sundde to investigate thoroughly and go to the very bones of the mafias that sponsor these buyers, mafias of jobbers, smugglers.

That is why I proposed a System of Safe Supply. The finger print reader is a pending issue, we have not done it. We must admit it has been a mistake not doing it on time. It is a mistake. We have to accelerate the implementation of the System of Safe Supply, the cards of Safe Supply; it is a priority above everything, the finger print reader, because we are dealing with abnormal people, the people who do this are not normal, they have a goal: Venezuela. Venezuela is the jewel of the crown for the North American imperialism, because in Venezuela the idea of Bolívar awoke, because Venezuela raised it head again 200 years after, because Venezuela is building a pertinent model to the historical conditions of the XXI century.

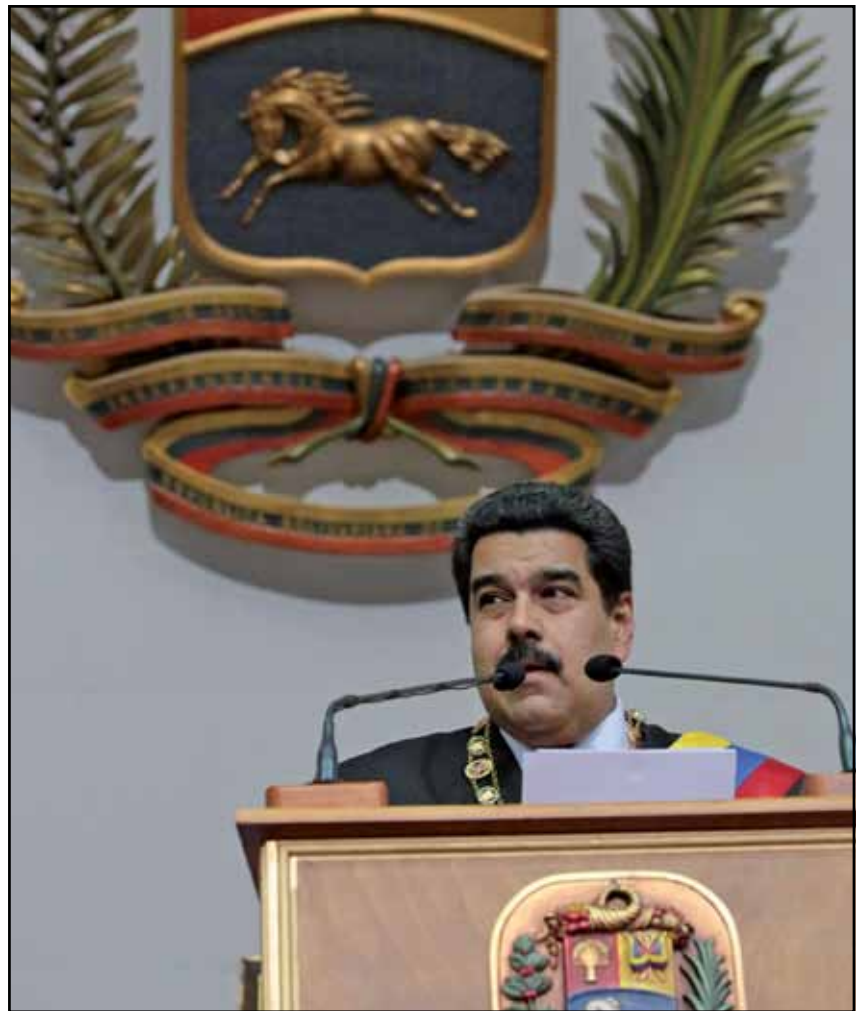
Notice how they attack us in Europe, I will not add a word more; stop the victories of forces that belong in those countries. They will not be able to stop them. They attack us and attack us and present in those countries the lines and the things. The battle for Venezuela is not only for Venezuela. The battle for Venezuela is the battle of the hope for a better world, a world of equals, a socialist world, a world without empires. That is the truth of the present history.

Notice, fellow countrymen, to conclude, the global investments for production, imports and distribution of food. We have held meetings, Deputy Gaviria, here I have part of the report, a permanent and open dialogue, here they are, with diverse sectors, industry, assembling

plants, the dairy sector, poultry, meat producers, general food sector, Confagan (National Confederation of Agriculturists and Cattle Breeders) Hygiene sector, barbwire sector, tire production sector, car batteries sector, etc, Fedeagro, until late last night, all sectors.

Tomorrow we will be holding meetings with all the economic teams of the states governments, and tomorrow also begin the meetings with the map of distributors and wholesalers, one by one. We already made a constitutional document of obligations. We are working on the productive plans with all of them, the plans to substitute imports, the plans of investment in bolivars and dollars, on a comprehensive planning system. Wrong things we have for sure, weaknesses? We sure do. But we are in the obligation to overcome those weaknesses and mistakes, and all these orientations, orders and analysis, I have given and made here today, comrade ministers are orders for action. We have to become champions of action, creation and resolution of problems.

We cannot be pleased with reports, little reports, or hold a meeting to schedule another meeting and then a meeting for another, no, from each meeting, actions must result, resolution of problems, that is the criticism we receive from the productive sector, that is it: I meet with this one, with that one, with the other and I do not concrete anything, in spite of the fact we put our heart in it, allow me to say, and we work and work and we demand and self-demand 24 hours a day. But we have to demand and self demand more, much more as for the problem solving methods. We are responsible of doing it and we have to do it well together with our people and



all the goodwill persons who want to work beyond the ideological or political differences we may have.

In the alimentary area I have already approved the vice president of security and Alimentary Sovereignty, in this work session, I wish someone from the press take down notes, so that we explain it, the trifle figure of 148.998 million bolivars for investments and to guarantee the systems of alimentary distribution throughout the nation, and besides with a protected dollar at 6,30. I have approved him this year 2015, 8.109 million dollars at 6,30 for alimentary investment and basic products.

These are the necessary elements to be informed; these are decision already made that must be informed thoroughly and clear. I tell the Venezuelan people, in



this 2015, I tell the Venezuelan people; we come from a year 2014, a year of capacity, work and combat.

Two hundred years before Boves roamed these fields. It was the first people's insurrection registered by history. Afterwards the Boves myth remained along decades. Maybe it was Boves who went out those 27 and 28 of February, '89 and his spirit of a people that when does not find the way out, when roads are closed, open them whatever it costs, that is the Venezuelan people, it is a brave people. It is the people of José Leonardo Chirinos, of Andresote, of Negro Primero, of Guacaipuro; this is a rebel people who have found its road.

This 2015 has to be a year to attain peace, to progress in the economical rebirth of our country. The difficulties, the

crisis and the obstacles are only tests to see if we can or if we cannot. I say that our people in one voice say we can. We will overcome obstacles, we will overcome difficulties, and we will overcome conspiracy, evil and perversity.

On September 6th this year we will be commemorating in Jamaica the 200 years of the Letter from Jamaica, a vital document in our history where the Libertador managed to interpret the times he lived and proposed a big project for the unity of all America that was liberating from the Spanish empire. 200 years, we are the same people, they are the same ideas, Bolívar's ideas, revitalized today in the project brilliantly configured by our Supreme Commander Hugo Chávez, what an ingenuity, what a wisdom.

This ingenuity and wisdom are only present in men who are able to receive the divine love, the love of the people. They are able to practice love in all its human splendor, that was Hugo Chávez, a man who was able to know and recognize the love of the people of Bolívar, who woke them up, as Robert Serra used to say. He woke them up forever. Robert had a phrase, here is his mother, we admire the courage of this woman and her children, her daughter and her son before such an abominable murder as the one perpetrated by these criminal gangs against Robert. She has assumed the post his son left, and there she is on the streets, fighting for justice even with the capacity to smile in the face of adversity of the sorrow for the assassination of our Robert. And love is the only thing that moves her which is what moves us. Love makes us invincible, that makes us undefeatable, love. And I say along with Bolívar 200 years ago in the Letter from Jamaica, and we say with Bolívar, and we say along with Chávez, and we say along with Robert on this day of account rendering, on this day of commence and recommence this path, today January 21, 2015, with a lot of love for our country, with a lot of love for the destiny of our people, I say from the Letter of Ja-

maica, as our Libertador said: “The veil has been torn, we have already seen light, and they want us to go back to darkness. Chains have been broken, and our enemies pretend to enslave us again, therefore America fights with spite and rarely desperation has led us to victory”.

Let us fight with the same spirit of Bolívar, of the Letter from Jamaica, and let us make our people attain great victories this year 2015, a year of victory, a year of peace, a year of economic rebirth, a year of hope, a year of future, they will not defeat us, they have not defeated us and they never will defeat the people of Bolívar, the people of Chávez!

Chávez lives!

(Audience:) *Our country goes on!*

(President Nicolás Maduro:)

Independence and a socialist country!

(Audience:) *We will live and shall overcome!*

(President Nicolás Maduro:)

Until victory forever!

(Audience:) *We will live and shall overcome!*

Alert, alert, alert, the sword of Bolívar is walking in Latin America!





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“Here are some results I would like to share with you, as to how a country under national and international siege and permanent sabotage and the violence of a sector that still does not understand its role in the development of a dynamic democracy, in the respect to the Constitution, in the pacific coexistence with positions different from the ones you defend, how, in spite of those adversities, those difficulties, the year 2014 showed the strength of the model of just investment of the country’s wealth”.

Nicolás Maduro Moros

President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Recount and report before the National Assembly,

January 21, 2015



Ministerio del Poder Popular
para la **Comunicación y la Información**