

Washington raises bounty for Maduro after Venezuela swears him in for new term



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro (L) talks to Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega (2nd-L) and Cuba's President Miguel Díaz, January 10, 2025. (Photo by AFP)

Washington, January 11 (RHC)-- The U.S. State Department has raised the reward for information leading to the arrest or conviction of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, on the day he was sworn in for a third six-year term in office, from \$15 million to \$25 million.

It also offered \$25 million for information leading to the arrest or conviction of Interior Minister Diosdado Cabello. It further created a new reward of up to \$15 million for the arrest or conviction of Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino.

Finally, it announced that it is placing new sanctions on eight Venezuelan officials in order to freeze any assets they have in the United States.



NARCOTICS REWARDS PROGRAM

REWARD INCREASE OF UP TO

\$25,000,000



FOR INFORMATION

TO THE ARR

CONVICTION

MADURO

FOR NARCO

CONSPIRAC

IMPORTATION

CONSPIRACY

CARRY MACHI

The U.S. government has claimed that the rewards and the new round of sanctions are meant to show “solidarity with the Venezuelan people” and put pressure on Maduro and his allies.

Maduro became president following the death of Hugo Chavez in 2013.

On Friday, President Maduro took the oath of office, vowing his third six-year term in office would be a “period of peace.”

“I swear by history, I swear by my life, and I will fulfill it,” he noted. “The Venezuelan people have defeated imperialism, and its sly diplomacy.”

Maduro was declared winner of the country’s presidential election on July 28 by electoral authorities. He secured 51 percent of the votes, but the US and its allies refuse to recognize his victory and support his pro-Western rival.

U.S. hostility against Venezuela started more than two decades ago with the launch of the Bolivarian Revolution by late Venezuelan anti-imperialist and revolutionary leader Hugo Chavez.

Since the mid-2010s, U.S. administrations have subjected Caracas to extreme sanctions meant to destabilize the economy of the oil-rich country.

[SOURCE: teleSUR and NEWS AGENCIES, AFP]

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