

# *Venezuelan Minister Meets with US State Department Counselor*

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Caracas, April 09 (teleSUR-RHC) Venezuelan Foreign Minister Delcy Rodríguez met on Wednesday in Caracas with U.S. State Department counselor Thomas Shannon.

After the meeting, Rodríguez reiterated Venezuela's demand to withdraw the executive order signed by President Barack Obama declaring Venezuela a "national security threat".

"The Venezuelan government recently invited the U.S. government to send a high-ranking official to Caracas to meet with President Maduro before the Summit of the Americas," a State Department representative told news agency EFE, but asked for anonymity.

"The Venezuelan government has often wanted to engage in direct dialogue, and we have always made clear that we have diplomatic relations and are ready to speak directly," he added.

The meeting between the two representatives took place in Caracas in the lead up to the Summit of the Americas, which will take place on April 10 and 11 in Panama.

The meeting also follows U.S. people admitting that Venezuela wasn't any sort of security threat to the U.S. and that their country was "disappointed" by the broad support expressed by Latin America against the decree signed by Obama.

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