## <u>Press release: Foreign Secretary</u> <u>statement on Venezuela elections</u>

Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said:

I am disappointed, but not surprised, that Maduro pressed ahead with deeply flawed elections to secure his own survival. They were neither free nor fair, and have further eroded Venezuelan democracy. There is an urgent need to restore democratic order, release political prisoners, and respect the National Assembly and political opposition.

The condemnation of the international community is loud and clear. We shall work closely with our EU and regional partners in the coming weeks to determine how we can continue to support a political resolution.

I remain deeply concerned by the man-made humanitarian and economic crisis, which is growing worse by the day. I urge the Venezuelan government to take immediate action, and let the international community deliver essential food and medicines. The suffering of ordinary Venezuelan people cannot be allowed to continue.

## Further information

- Follow the Foreign Secretary on Twitter <a>@BorisJohnson</a> and <a>Facebook</a>
- Follow the Foreign Office on Twitter <a>@foreignoffice</a> and <a>Facebook</a>
- Follow the Foreign Office on Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn

## Media enquiries

For journalists

Email <u>newsdesk@fco.gov.uk</u>

Newsdesk 020 7008 3100