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Venezuelan Senate Issues Statement Condemning U.S. Oil Import Tax; Calls For Meetings To Combat Protectionism

by John Neagle
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On Oct. 10 the Venezuelan Senate issued a statement calling the US oil import tax an unjustified economic aggression. The ruling Democratic Action party, the Social Christian (COPEI) and the Movement Towards Socialism (MAS) parties were in agreement on the statement which claimed the tax negatively affects relations between Venezuela and the United States, and violates the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), as well as the spirit of the recent GATT meeting in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The Senate then formally requested that the administration of President Jaime Lusinchi arrange extraordinary meetings of both the Latin American Economic System (SELA), and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to organize effective actions against protectionism by the United States and other industrialized nations.

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