

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Venezuela

**Post:** Caracas

### **The Government Evaluates Transferring PDVAL to Minal**

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

According to Venezuela's Vice president, Elias Jaua, the Government is evaluating the possibility of changing the adscription of its food chain PDVAL, a subsidiary of the State oil company Petróleos de Venezuela, PDVSA, to the Ministry of Food. Mr. Jaua explained that with this decision they will avoid the problems in storage and marketing of food reported recently.

**General Information:****The Government is evaluating the transfer of PDVAL to the Ministry of Food**

As a result of a recent scandal related to imported containers found with rotten, spoiled, or outdated food in warehouses in the port of Puerto Cabello and other locations run by Venezuelan Food Producer and Distributer Productora y Distribuidora Venezolana de Alimentos, (PDVAL), the Bolivarian Government will evaluate a change in the adscription of PDVAL.

The Venezuelan Government is studying the possibility of changing the adscription of PDVAL to another government organization with the objective of avoiding problems in the storage and marketing of food. The Vice-President said that the most logical arrangement is that PDVAL fall under the competence of the Ministry of Food (Minal) to allow good management of food distribution as demonstrated by Minal's marketing chain, Mercal.

He also denied the dismissal of the current president of PDVAL, Virginia Mares, because of PDVAL containers found in poor condition on May 25 in a warehouse in Puerto Cabello, Carabobo State.

Source: Government statements in Local Media