



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2006/NGO/236  
09 March 2006

ENGLISH AND SPANISH  
ONLY

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Sixty-second session  
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS APPLICATION  
TO PEOPLES UNDER COLONIAL OR ALIEN DOMINATION OR FOREIGN  
OCCUPATION**

**Written statement\* submitted by the Federation of Cuban Women, a non-governmental  
organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is  
circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[06 March 2006]

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\* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the  
submitting non-governmental organization(s).

Perhaps never before the sovereignty and the right to self-determination of the peoples was not compromised like at this present time the humankind is living, in which the hegemonic powers insist in breaking into fragment countries and nations, to vivify differences and contradictions, to reestablish areas of imperial influence and recolonize, under new concepts and pretexts, the territories that always needed for their parasitic development.

In times of the war of the galaxies, with television covering and millions of dollars used in armaments, in times when the international community is ignored and the manifestations in favor of the peace in the most populous capitals in the orb, to defend the right of the peoples to self-determination constitutes an inevitable urgency. The imperialism has tried us to believe that the self-determination of the people is an exclusive use of the big powers. It tries to impose the version of what sovereignty should be.

We have seen how the imperious of the United Nations have been underestimated with arrogance, with the attacking of Iraq and how actions for economic interests are put into practice.

Under the pretext of an "antiterrorist war" the human rights so proclaimed by United States protect the vandalism, the use of bombs against civil population, the destruction of the humanity's cultural patrimony and the foreign occupation. How expensive is being this occupation for the North American families, for mothers and wives that have felt the pain of losing their dear beings or for those that live with the fear off being warned about their death.

It is not enough with the occupation of Afghanistan, neither of Iraq, I eat before they were other, new aggressions they are gestated and they are built for it unacceptable explanations of human security, of limiting the nuclear proliferation,... while some others announce with no honor, their possibility to use an strategic armament to combat any terrorist attack.

We daily see the harrowing images of the desolation and the anguish of women and children, victims of the occupation, of the use of the violation like instrument of war and political pressure in the behavior of the occupants.

We Cuban women feel as our the suffering and the mourning imposed to the Palestinian families, the pain of the mothers of the dead children due to the violence exercised by Israel, and the systematic humiliation the Palestinian people is submitted to, damages that never will be calculated.

Cuba has systematically denounced the attacks against its right to self-determination, since we have been victims for more than 45 years, as the existence of mercenary invasions and a genocidal blockade unilaterally imposed by United States administrations.

It is only pursued the isolation and the asphyxia of Cuba, with the lewd purpose to drown its people and have it abandon its decision of being a sovereign and independent country. For Cuba it continues being a permanent demand the refund of the territory that usurps in an illegal way, against the will of the Cuban people: the US Naval Base in Guantánamo that deeply injures the independence of our homeland and constitutes a violation of the right of the people to self-determination. That portion of our territory has become sadly famous due to the horrors that are taken place there, due to the violations the prisoners are subjected to, that have been confined there by the Government of United States.

We Cuban women demand the devolution of that part of our territory and we request the solidarity of the international community in this birdcall.

We reject all type of occupation that take place under wild attributions or pretended justification and we denounce the economic base of the occupations.

On behalf of all women and children that suffer wars, we strongly defend peace, sovereignty and the respect to the autonomy of the nations.

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