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**COMPILATION PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 15(B) OF  
THE ANNEX TO HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTION 5/1**

**Cuba**

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

## I. BACKGROUND AND FRAMEWORK

### A. Scope of international obligations<sup>1</sup>

<i>Core universal human rights treaties<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations /reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
ICERD	15 February 1972	Yes (article 22)	Individual complaints (article 14): No
CEDAW	17 July 1980	Yes (article 29)	-
CAT	17 May 1995	Yes (arts. 20, 28, 30)	Inter-State complaints (article 21): No Individual complaints (article 22): No Inquiry procedure (article 20): Yes
CRC	21 August 1991	Yes (article 1)	-
OP-CRC-AC	9 February 2007	Binding declaration under art. 3: 17 years	-
OP-CRC-SC	25 September 2001	None	-
CPD	6 September 2007	None	-

*Core treaties to which Cuba is not a party:* ICESCR (signature only, 2008), ICCPR (signature only, 2008), OP-CEDAW (signature only, 2000), OP-CAT, ICRMW, CPD-OP and CED (signature only, 2007).

<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>	<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	Yes
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	No
Palermo Protocol <sup>3</sup>	No
Refugees and stateless persons <sup>4</sup>	No
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto <sup>5</sup>	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions <sup>6</sup>	Yes, except Convention No. 182
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	Yes

1. The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) recommended that Cuba consider the possibility of reviewing its declaration to the Convention with a view to its withdrawal.<sup>7</sup>

2. Some members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) requested that Cuba consider accepting the individual complaints procedure under article 14 of the Convention.<sup>8</sup> According to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Cuba should also promptly ratify ICCPR and ICESCR.<sup>9</sup> Cuba was furthermore encouraged to ratify OP-CEDAW,<sup>10</sup> ICRMW,<sup>11</sup> the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,<sup>12</sup> and the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption.<sup>13</sup>

### B. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

3. The Personal Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Cuba recommended the establishment of a standing independent body mandated to receive complaints of human rights violations,<sup>14</sup> a matter also addressed by CERD and CRC in 1998 and 1997, respectively.<sup>15</sup>

4. Noting that the Federation of Cuban Women is a non-governmental organization (NGO) acting as the national machinery for the advancement of women, CEDAW was concerned that this institutional status may limit the authority and influence of the national machinery within the government structure and diminish the accountability of Cuba with respect to the implementation

of the Convention. Cuba should review and if necessary strengthen the links between the Federation and government agencies and ensure provision of adequate financial resources for the implementation of the Federation's mandate.<sup>16</sup>

### C. Policy measures

5. CEDAW commended Cuba for its efforts to evaluate and update the National Action Plan for follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women.<sup>17</sup>

## II. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

### A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

#### 1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body<sup>18</sup></i>	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	1997	August 1998	-	Fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth reports overdue since 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007, respectively
CEDAW	2005	August 2006	-	Combined seventh and eight reports due in 2010
CAT	1996	November 1997	-	Second, third and fourth reports overdue since June 2000, 2004 and 2008, respectively
CRC	1995	May 1997	-	Second, third and fourth reports overdue since September 1998, 2003 and 2008, respectively
OP-CRC- AC	-	-	-	Initial report due in 2009
OP-CRC- SC	-	-	-	Initial report overdue since 2004

#### 2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	No
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	Special Rapporteur on the right to food (28 October to 6 November 2007) Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (12 to 17 September 1999) Special Rapporteur on violence against women (7 to 12 June 1999)
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	None
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; requested in 2006. Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression; requested in 2003.
<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	The Special Rapporteur on the right to food and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women expressed their appreciation for the cooperation of the Government. <sup>19</sup>
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	-
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	About 25 communications were sent within the four year periodicity, covering in addition to particular groups, 55 individuals, including 10 women; the Government replied to 20 communications, i.e. 80 per cent of communications sent.
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues<sup>20</sup></i>	Cuba responded to one of the 13 questionnaires sent by mandate-holders <sup>21</sup> during the period under review, within the deadlines. <sup>22</sup>

6. Under resolution 2002/18 of the Commission on Human Rights, Cuba was invited to make efforts to achieve similar progress in respect of human, civil and political rights as in the area of social rights. In accordance with this resolution, in 2003, a Personal Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Cuba (thereafter “Personal Representative”) was appointed.<sup>23</sup> Cuba was urged to receive the Personal Representative and to provide her with all the necessary facilities.<sup>24</sup> As noted by the Personal Representative, Cuba did not reply to her attempts to initiate a dialogue,<sup>25</sup> and refused to recognize her mandate.<sup>26</sup>

7. Cuba considered as unjust, discriminatory and selective the treatment of the human rights situation in Cuba by the Commission on Human Rights.<sup>27</sup> According to the Personal Representative, the transformation from the Commission to the Human Rights Council provided an opportunity under which, in the context of the universal periodic review and other procedures, Cuba should be subject to periodic review.<sup>28</sup> The mandate of the Personal Representative was not included in the list of mandates renewed by resolution 5/1 of the Human Rights Council.

8. In 2000, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women urged Cuba to grant invitations to thematic mechanisms which have requested to visit Cuba, including the Special Rapporteurs on freedom of opinion and expression, on torture, and on religious intolerance.<sup>29</sup> The Special Rapporteur on the right to food, while welcoming the commitment that Cuba will invite special procedures to visit the country, recommended that standing invitations be extended to all of them in 2008.<sup>30</sup>

### **3. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**

9. Cuba made voluntary contributions to support the work of the Office in 2001 and 2008.<sup>31</sup>

## **B. Implementation of international human rights obligations**

### **1. Equality and non-discrimination**

10. CEDAW was concerned in 2006 that no explicit definition of discrimination against women, in accordance with the Convention, is contained in national legislation. Cuba should strengthen education programmes on the Convention and its applicability in domestic law and on the meaning and scope of indirect discrimination; and enhance women’s knowledge of their rights and of the Convention.<sup>32</sup>

11. Concern was expressed by CEDAW about the persistence and pervasiveness of deep-rooted stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family. Cuba should strengthen its efforts to combat these stereotypes.<sup>33</sup>

12. In 1998, CERD noted with interest the 1992 constitutional reform by which aliens resident enjoy the same rights as Cubans in the protection of their persons and property and the implementation of constitutional rights and duties.<sup>34</sup>

### **2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person**

13. The Personal Representative recommended that Cuba uphold without exceptions the 2000 moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to abolishing the death penalty.<sup>35</sup>

14. In 1997, CAT recommended the criminalization of torture by Cuba, as defined in the Convention; the establishment of a transparent permanent procedure for receiving complaints about torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment, their prompt examination and bringing to justice those responsible; the incorporation into the law of the right of the suspect or detainee to silence at all stages of investigation; the setting up of a comprehensive education and training programme for all those involved in the arrest, custody, interrogation, detention and imprisonment of individuals; and the establishment of a central register on complaints and of a compensation fund for victims of torture and other prohibited treatment.<sup>36</sup>

15. The establishment of a system of recurrent review of prisons was also recommended by CAT.<sup>37</sup> In 2000, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that, since she visited only one prison and could not interview prisoners in private, she was not able to confirm or deny allegations that prisoners are held in substandard and unhealthy conditions, face physical and sexual abuse, are forced to undergo politically “re-education programmes” and that political prisoners are frequently subjected to excessive punitive measures akin to torture, inhuman or degrading treatment.<sup>38</sup> In 2005-2007, the Personal Representative was alarmed at allegations of ill-treatment in detention. She noted that food and hygiene are substandard and medical care either unavailable or inappropriate, that some prisoners are kept in solitary confinement, while others are subjected to dangerous levels of overcrowding with ordinary prisoners; that there have been reports of guards humiliating and striking prisoners; that relatives encounter many problems when trying to visit prisoners and that several prisoners have been on particularly stressful hunger strikes.<sup>39</sup>

16. In 2008, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food noted that the facilities he visited seemed adequate and well managed and that the inmates with whom he spoke seemed to be satisfied with their food and diet. However, he also received allegations that some prisoners suffer from health problems caused by inadequate diet and that some of them have not received proper medical attention.<sup>40</sup> Other mandate-holders raised the issue of the deterioration of the health of some detainees.<sup>41</sup> Cuba responded that such allegations are groundless and/or that all prisoners are guaranteed medical treatment.<sup>42</sup>

17. While noting new provisions addressing domestic violence, and commending Cuba for making it an aggravating factor when violence is perpetrated by a spouse or relative, CEDAW recommended in 2006 that Cuba review and clarify the content of the new provisions and definition of violence and increase the availability of support measures for women victims of violence.<sup>43</sup> Measures should be taken towards changing the culturally determined attitudes that remain permissive of violence against women.<sup>44</sup> In 2000, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, noting a lack of statistical data, found it hard to determine the scope and prevalence of violence against women.<sup>45</sup> Cuba drew the attention of the Special Rapporteur to some other statistics submitted during her mission.<sup>46</sup> The Special Rapporteur also called for the establishment of shelters for women victims of violence in all provinces.<sup>47</sup> Cuba denounced the speculative assessment made by the Special Rapporteur, who did not demonstrate that domestic violence is widespread in Cuba.<sup>48</sup> More generally, Cuba denounced the lack of neutrality of the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women.<sup>49</sup>

18. CEDAW called on Cuba to take all appropriate measures to suppress the exploitation of prostitution of women, including discouraging male demand for prostitution. Cuba should increase its efforts to implement education programmes and campaigns against prostitution, to enhance women’s economic opportunities, to study the root causes of prostitution and take

remedial measures.<sup>50</sup> In 1997, while noting that trafficking and child prostitution were not major problems in Cuba, CRC recommended that the Criminal Code protect children up to the age of 18 from sexual exploitation. Further measures should address matters relating to the sexual exploitation of children, particularly through tourism.<sup>51</sup>

19. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women recommended in 2000 the dismantlement of rehabilitation centres for “behaviour modification” where sex-workers are held. As sex work is not a crime in Cuba, the use of criminal procedure, such as imprisonment, forced labour in agriculture and restriction of visiting time to a few hours, violate their rights to due process of law.<sup>52</sup> Cuba responded that measures against prostitutes are not punitive, and that prostitutes are not forced to work in rehabilitation centres.<sup>53</sup>

### **3. Administration of justice and the rule of law**

20. In 2000, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted with concern that the National Assembly has the authority to select and dismiss the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General and the Deputy Attorneys General; that the Office of the Attorney-General is subordinate to the National Assembly and the Council of State; and that the Attorney-General is to give an account of his work to the National Assembly. Such constitutional provisions impede the impartiality and independence of the judiciary.<sup>54</sup> Cuba, stressing that the people opted for the socialist political system, rejected such a statement, which in its view reflected false information fabricated by malicious sources or based on fundamentalist ideological attitudes.<sup>55</sup> CAT had recommended in 1997 the revision of the rules relating to the organization of the judicial system in accordance with international standards.<sup>56</sup>

21. In 2007, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers reminded Cuba that according to international standards, military tribunals should not be competent in principle to try civilians.<sup>57</sup>

22. The Personal Representative recommended that Cuba bring the rules of criminal procedure into line with articles 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.<sup>58</sup>

23. According to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, access to justice in relation to the right to food should be improved. The courts should be mandated to deal with human rights violations and an independent institution charged with processing complaints and providing remedies for violations should be established.<sup>59</sup> In response, Cuba clarified that its inter-agency system deals with such complaints.<sup>60</sup>

### **4. Freedom of movement**

24. The personal representative recommended that Cuba review the regulations relating to travel into and out of Cuba in order to guarantee freedom of movement.<sup>61</sup>

### **5. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life**

25. According to the Personal Representative, a ban was imposed on public religious ceremonies on 8 September 2005.<sup>62</sup> Under resolution 2004/11 of the Commission on Human Rights, hope was expressed that Cuba will continue its efforts to boost religious freedom.<sup>63</sup>

The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that the refusal to accept independent political and civil organizations that would act as watchdogs vis-à-vis the Government is the main cause of the vulnerability of women whose political views are not acceptable to the Government.<sup>64</sup> Cuba also rejected such a statement on the same grounds as those mentioned in paragraph 20 above.<sup>65</sup> The Personal Representative recommended that Cuba foster pluralism in respect of associations, trade unions, organs of the press and political parties.<sup>66</sup>

26. In 2003, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention held that the deprivation of liberty of 79 persons was arbitrary, and requested Cuba to remedy this situation. The case related to persons arrested and detained as a result of their activities as human rights defenders, journalists, writers, leaders of opposition political movements, dissident social leaders or trade union leaders, and participating in the dissemination of a petition for the holding of a referendum on reform of the Cuban electoral and political systems. The Working Group considered that the legislation applied contravened articles 19, 20 and 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.<sup>67</sup> A number of Special procedures also sent communications to Cuba on the issue,<sup>68</sup> and concern was expressed by the High Commissioner,<sup>69</sup> the Personal Representative,<sup>70</sup> and in resolution 2004/11 of the Commission on Human Rights.<sup>71</sup>

27. In the same case, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention was not in a position to render an opinion as to whether the non-observance of the international norms relating to an impartial trial was of such gravity that it would make these deprivations of freedom arbitrary. Nevertheless, it noted that the summary nature of the trials must be proportionate to the offence and the sentence imposed.<sup>72</sup> Cuba circulated in 2004 a document describing the judicial guarantees and medical attention the concerned persons, whom it considered as mercenaries, had received.<sup>73</sup>

28. In 2007, the Personal Representative stressed that the situation of these concerned persons, 59 of whom were still in prison, remained an issue of concern. She noted that they were sentenced to very long prison terms ranging from 6 to 28 years, either under article 91 of the Criminal Code, or on the basis of article 91, combined with the provisions of Act No. 88 on acts “contrary to the independence and integrity of the State”, that they were tried in very short order, in trials not open to the public, and were assisted by counsel who did not belong to an independent bar association, and that they were being held in conditions affecting their physical and mental health.<sup>74</sup>

29. The Personal Representative noted that more people were arrested in 2004, 2005 and 2006 and convicted for openly expressing dissident political opinions, and that they continued to suffer harassment, intimidation and censorship after their release.<sup>75</sup> She recommended that Cuba halt the prosecution of citizens who are exercising the rights guaranteed under articles 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.<sup>76</sup>

30. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights defenders, the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, the Special Rapporteur on the right to health, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, also sent a number of communications concerning the arrest, detention and persecution of human rights defenders and/or journalists who peacefully exercised their right to freedom of expression and association.<sup>77</sup> Cuba responded that allegations were false; and/or that the persons mentioned were not human rights defenders or journalists; and/or referred to national laws criminalizing enemy propaganda, insult to patriotic emblems,

spreading of unauthorized news and “dangerous” acts against the State.<sup>78</sup> In 1997, certain offences, namely “disrespect”, “resisting authority” and “enemy propaganda”, arouse the concern of CAT because of the uncertainty of their constituent elements and the room they provide for misuse and abuse.<sup>79</sup>

31. The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights defenders, raised the issue of the deportation from Cuba, in 2005, of journalists and members of the European Parliament wishing to participate in the assembly for the promotion of civil society in Cuba. Noting the response by Cuba that these persons had misused touristic visas, the Special Rapporteur recalled that the right to freedom of opinion and expression encompasses the right not to be disturbed due to one’s opinions and the right to information regardless of frontiers.<sup>80</sup> CAT and the Personal Representative recommended that Cuba authorize NGOs to enter the country.<sup>81</sup>

32. In 2004 and 2006, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression also raised the issue of restrictions to the access and use of the Internet.<sup>82</sup> Cuba responded that, owing to limited resources, Internet connections are facilitated to community and social-interest points only.<sup>83</sup>

33. A 2008 United Nations Statistics Division source indicated that the proportion of seats held by women in the National Assembly increased from 36 to 43.2 per cent between 2005 and 2008.<sup>84</sup> The Personal Representative also noted the steady rise of the proportion of women in the National Assembly, the judiciary, and in decision-making posts.<sup>85</sup> CEDAW, also noting with satisfaction the increased representation of women at all levels,<sup>86</sup> recommended temporary special measures to accelerate the increase in the number of women in elected and appointed bodies in all areas of public life.<sup>87</sup>

## **6. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work**

34. CEDAW welcomed the high percentage of women in employment and pursuing careers in the scientific and technical fields, and an ILO Committee of Experts noted in 2008 that women have made inroads in sectors which were traditionally occupied by men and hold managerial posts in them.<sup>88</sup> The ILO Committee stressed that legislation should further prohibit pay discrimination that occurs in situations where men and women perform different work that is nevertheless of equal value.<sup>89</sup>

35. The ILO Committee noted that domestic legislation does not fully comply with Convention No. 79 concerning the Restriction of Night Work of Children and Young Persons in Non-Industrial Occupations,<sup>90</sup> and that the prohibition made to persons under 18 years from carrying out certain hazardous work is not sufficiently wide to cover all types of hazardous work within the meaning of Convention No. 138.<sup>91</sup>

36. The ILO Committee observed that revision of the Labour Code has been going on for many years without tangible results. Cuba should ensure that all workers are able to establish and join trade unions of their own choosing, and amend the Labour Code accordingly. It should also amend legislative provisions which confer upon the Confederation of Cuban Workers the monopoly to represent workers on government bodies. Recalling that the right to strike is not recognized in the legislation and that its exercise in practice is prohibited, the Committee recommended that Cuba ensure that no one is discriminated against or prejudiced in their



employment for having peacefully exercised this right. It also called for the immediate release of trade union leaders sentenced to severe penalties of imprisonment.<sup>92</sup>

## **7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living**

37. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women noted that Cuban women benefit from an economic and social network, which puts them in a better position statistically than most of their Latin American counterparts.<sup>93</sup>

38. According to a WHO/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) source, a policy was drafted to enhance the efficiency and quality of health services, ensuring the sustainability of the system, and eliminating health inequalities between regions and population groups.<sup>94</sup> The total amount spent on public health increased by 59 per cent between 1994 and 2000.<sup>95</sup> A 2003 World Bank report noted that Cuba spends substantially more of its gross domestic product on health than other Latin American countries: 6.6 per cent in 2002.<sup>96</sup>

39. As regards access to antiretroviral treatment, Cuba exceeds 80 per cent in treatment coverage, according to a 2005 UNAIDS/WHO report.<sup>97</sup> Cuba's epidemic remains by far the smallest in the Caribbean but new HIV infections are on the rise, and preventive measures appear not to be keeping pace with conditions that favour HIV spread, including widening income inequalities and a growing sex industry. However, prevention of mother-to-child transmission programme remains highly effective. Universal and free access to antiretroviral therapy has kept the number of AIDS cases and deaths low.<sup>98</sup>

40. In 2006, CEDAW was concerned that, as a result of insufficient awareness about, and access to family planning and contraceptive methods, abortion may be used as a method of birth control and lead to multiple abortions during a woman's childbearing years.<sup>99</sup>

41. The Special Rapporteur on the right of food, while noting the impressive progress made by Cuba towards the realization of the right to food, believed that important challenges remain.<sup>100</sup> Those particularly vulnerable to poverty and food insecurity include people living in the eastern provinces, women, children, the elderly, as well as female-headed households. With a robust life expectancy of 75 years for men and 78 years for women, Cuba faces the future challenge of providing food security with a declining agricultural workforce.<sup>101</sup> Despite the intended inclusiveness of the food rationing (*libreta*) system, Cubans face difficulties in accessing affordable food in light of their insufficient income, particularly those who do not belong to any of the groups at particular risk and have to obtain 50 per cent of their minimum food requirements from non-subsidized mechanisms such as agricultural markets. This situation has worsened in recent years. In addition, the limited number of products available in national currency has impeded the Government's ability to ensure economic access to sufficient and adequate food to the whole population. While measures are being initiated to improve this, further progress is required.<sup>102</sup> In 2008 the United Nations Statistics Division indicated that the proportion of the population that was undernourished in 2002 was 2.5 per cent.<sup>103</sup>

42. The Special Rapporteur on the right to food recommended, inter alia, the adoption of a framework law on the right to food, with the participation of all relevant actors. The constitutional right of every citizen to live in any sector, zone or area should be fully implemented, in conjunction with the right to food of every Cuban. Measures should be taken to facilitate the allocation of the subsidized basket to internal migrants who have moved without properly fulfilling the necessary administrative procedures. All Cubans should receive the

subsidized food basket through the *libreta* system, wherever they live. The Government should intensify recent policies to increase agricultural production and efficiency. Social security programmes should be strengthened to ensure coverage for all.<sup>104</sup> Cuba provided observations on the report.<sup>105</sup>

### **8. Right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community**

43. According to UNESCO reports, investment in education is high, amounting to 10–11 per cent of gross domestic product,<sup>106</sup> the teaching staff is well qualified and a strong literate environment has been set in place.<sup>107</sup> The United Nations Statistics Division indicated that the net enrolment ratio in primary education in 2006 was 97 per cent.<sup>108</sup>

### **9. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers**

44. UNHCR informed the Secretary-General in 2008 that Cuba has maintained its de facto policy of non-refoulement and of protection and assistance in the education and health sectors to refugees, but does not offer local integration possibilities for them.<sup>109</sup> It is expected that Cuba's readiness to ratify refugee instruments and to engage in finding solutions to the refugee situation within the country are dependent on a change in its relations with the United States of America.<sup>110</sup>

## **III. ACHIEVEMENTS, BEST PRACTICES, CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS**

45. In 1997, CAT welcomed the criminalization by Cuba of complicity in crimes against humanity, human dignity and offences laid down in international treaties.<sup>111</sup>

46. The Special Rapporteur on the right to food commended the substantial steps Cuba has taken to meet its international commitments. Cuba has already met the targets of the 1996 World Food Summit and the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1, halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger by 2015. Cuba has also achieved MDG 2 (universal primary education), 3 (gender equality) and 4 (reduction of child mortality), and expects to fully achieve Goals 1, 5 and 6 by 2015.<sup>112</sup> According to UNICEF, Cuba is on track to achieve most of the MDGs by 2015.<sup>113</sup>

47. A 2004 UNESCO report noted that Cuba has achieved high standards of education quality,<sup>114</sup> and that its educational feats are impressive: it reduced illiteracy from 40 per cent to near zero in 10 years.<sup>115</sup> CRC noted in 1997 the historic progress Cuba made in providing services for and advancing the well-being of children, especially in the fields of health and education.<sup>116</sup> From 2004 to 2007, the Personal Representative also reported on positive aspects in the sphere of economic, social and cultural rights, especially in the areas of education and health.<sup>117</sup> According to the 2004 CCA, Cuba has attained health indicators with a high degree of national homogeneity.<sup>118</sup>

48. According to the Personal Representative, Cuba's efforts are all the more significant given the disastrous and lasting economic and social effects - compounded in 2004 - of the embargo imposed on the Cuban population over 40 years ago, as well as its impacts on civil and political rights.<sup>119</sup> CEDAW, CERD, CRC, CAT and the Special Rapporteurs on the right to food and on violence against women also recognized the serious social and economic difficulties that Cuba has experienced as a result of the embargo and the repercussions this has on the enjoyment of human rights in the country.<sup>120</sup> In particular, food importation is a difficult and expensive

process,<sup>121</sup> medical supplies are in short supply, and women have been most affected as they are the principal actors in domestic life.<sup>122</sup>

49. The General Assembly has considered the issue of the embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba since 1991. In a number of resolutions, concern was expressed at the adverse effects of the embargo on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living abroad, and States having and applying such measures were urged to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them.<sup>123</sup>

50. United Nations agencies also stressed the negative impact of the embargo on opportunities for development (UNDP and UNFPA); food security of the vulnerable segments of the population (FAO); food-based social safety nets (WFP); fundamental rights of children, adolescents, women and families (UNICEF); in the area of health (UNFPA, WFP and WHO/PAHO); human settlements, planning and management and environmental health (UN-HABITAT); education (UNICEF and UNESCO); science, culture, communications and information (UNESCO); and the quality of life of the most vulnerable groups (UNFPA) and the people in general (WFP and WHO/PAHO).<sup>124</sup> The 2008-2012 UNDAF report noted that the blockade represents an obstacle to the process of development of the country.<sup>125</sup>

51. According to the 2008-2012 UNDAF, Cuba is often affected by extreme hydro-meteorological phenomena and by long periods of drought. Cuba has a verified system for prevention and response to disasters and the National System of Civil Defense has granted great importance to the strengthening of the local capacities on risk reduction. Nevertheless, the recurrence of extreme natural phenomena impacts negatively on the capacity of management and recovery of the country.<sup>126</sup> A 2007 UNDP report noted that, as regards disaster risk management, Cuba is a striking example of a country that has successfully built infrastructure that protects lives.<sup>127</sup>

52. The Special Rapporteur on mercenaries concluded that attacks designed to damage tourism in Cuba, thereby flouting fundamental rights of the Cuban people and basic principles of international law, had been carried out in 1997 for financial gain by foreigners, who had been recruited, trained, hired and funded by third parties of Cuban origin acting outside the territory of Cuba.<sup>128</sup>

#### **IV. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES AND COMMITMENTS**

##### **A. Pledges by the State**

53. In 2006, Cuba confirmed its will to promote in the Human Rights Council its traditional initiatives on the right to food, the promotion of cultural rights and the respect for cultural diversity and the promotion of peace for the enjoyment of all human rights. Cuba pledged to continue working for the progressive development of third-generation rights and particularly of the value of international solidarity, and on the promotion of traditional non-aligned movement initiatives in human rights matters, in particular regarding the right to development.<sup>129</sup>

##### **B. Specific recommendations for follow-up**

54. The Special Rapporteur on the right to food in 2008<sup>130</sup> and the Personal Representative<sup>131</sup> made a number of recommendations to Cuba which are reflected above.

## V. CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

55. In 1997, CRC took note of Cuba's willingness to provide international assistance to victims of emergencies.<sup>132</sup> A 2006 WHO report noted that Cuba has exported thousands of health workers as part of its bilateral relations with other countries.<sup>133</sup>

56. The 2008-2012 UNDAF report noted that its main five areas of cooperation correspond to the national priorities identified by the Government and are aligned with the targets of the MDGs: local human development; natural disasters and risks; environment and energy; health; and food security.<sup>134</sup>

57. The Office of the Resident Coordinator in Cuba informed the Secretary General that the embargo seriously affects the implementation of the United Nations system's projects and programmes in Cuba.<sup>135</sup> The 2008-2012 UNDAF also noted that the blockade represents a challenge to the implementation of programs and projects of international cooperation.<sup>136</sup>

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2006* (ST/LEG/SER.E.25), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://untreaty.un.org/>.

<sup>2</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CPD	Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

<sup>3</sup> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

<sup>4</sup> 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

<sup>5</sup> Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War

(Third Convention); Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at [www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html).

<sup>6</sup> International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize; Convention No. 98 concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organize and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

<sup>7</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 25.

<sup>8</sup> CERD/C/304/Add.60, para. 13.

<sup>9</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 79 (a). See also CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para. 34, and A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (j); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (j); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (j); and E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (j).

<sup>10</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para. 31.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., para. 34.

<sup>12</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 27.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., para. 27.

<sup>14</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (f); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (f); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (f); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (f).

<sup>15</sup> CERD/C/304/Add.60, para 11; CRC/C/15/Add.72, para 12.

<sup>16</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, paras. 15 and 16.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., para. 7.

<sup>18</sup> The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CAT	Committee against Torture
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child

<sup>19</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para.1 ; E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 2.

<sup>20</sup> The questionnaires included in this section are those which have been reflected in an official report by a special procedure mandate-holder.

<sup>21</sup> See (a) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (A/HRC/4/29), questionnaire on the right to education of persons with disabilities sent in 2006; (b) report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/HRC/4/24), questionnaire on the impact of certain laws and administrative measures on migrants sent in 2006; (c) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/4/23), questionnaire on issues related to forced marriages and trafficking in persons sent in 2006; (d) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (E/CN.4/2006/95 and Add.5), questionnaire on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms sent in June 2005; (e) report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/HRC/6/15), questionnaire on the human rights of indigenous people sent in August 2007; (f) report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children (E/CN.4/2006/62) and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2006/67), joint questionnaire on the relationship between trafficking and the sent in July 2005; (g) report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education (E/CN.4/2006/45), questionnaire on the right to education for girls sent in 2005; (h) report of the Working

Group on mercenaries (A/61/341), questionnaire concerning its mandate and activities sent in November 2005; (i) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/4/31), questionnaire on the sale of children's organs sent on July 2006; (j) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (E/CN.4/2005/78), questionnaire on child pornography on the Internet sent in July 2004; (k) report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/HRC/7/8), questionnaire on assistance and rehabilitation programmes for child victims of sexual exploitation sent in July 2007; (l) report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises (A/HRC/4/35/Add.3), questionnaire on human rights policies and management practices; (m) questionnaire on the right to education in emergency situations (A/HRC/8/10).

<sup>22</sup> E/CN.4/2005/78, para. 4.

<sup>23</sup> OHCHR press release "Christine Chanet named Representative for Cuba of the High Commissioner for Human Rights", 27 January 2003.

<sup>24</sup> Resolution 2003/13, para. 2. See also resolutions 2002/18, para. 4, and 2004/11, para. 3.

<sup>25</sup> A/HRC/4/12, summary; E/CN.4/2006/33, summary; E/CN.4/2005/33, summary; E/CN.4/2004/32, summary.

<sup>26</sup> A/HRC/4/12, summary.

<sup>27</sup> E/CN.4/2003/G/37; E/CN.4/2004/G/46; E/CN.4/2005/G/39; E/CN.4/2005/G/26; E/CN.4/2005/G/41; E/CN.4/2005/G/42; E/CN.4/2005/G/43; A/HRC/4/G/3; A/HRC/5/G/8. See also E/CN.4/2005/G/18.

<sup>28</sup> United Nations press release, "Human Rights Council takes up situation of human rights in Belarus and Cuba", 12 June 2007.

<sup>29</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 94.

<sup>30</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, paras. 4 and 79 (a).

<sup>31</sup> 2001 OHCHR Annual Report on Activities and Results, pp. 15 and 23; 2008 OHCHR Annual Report on Activities and Results (forthcoming).

<sup>32</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, paras. 11-12.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., paras. 17 and 18. See also Country Common Assessment for Cuba, 2004, p. 51, at [www.undp.org/cu/documentos/2004%20ONU%20Cuba%20CCA.pdf](http://www.undp.org/cu/documentos/2004%20ONU%20Cuba%20CCA.pdf).

<sup>34</sup> CERD/C/304/Add.60, para. 6.

<sup>35</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (d); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (d); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (d); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (d).

<sup>36</sup> A/53/44, para. 118 (a), (b), (c), (f), (g) and (h).

<sup>37</sup> Ibid., para. 118 (d).

<sup>38</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 62.

<sup>39</sup> A/HRC/4/12, paras. 30-31; E/CN.4/2006/33, paras. 29-30; E/CN.4/2005/33, paras. 31-32.

<sup>40</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 74.

<sup>41</sup> A/HRC/7/11/Add.1, para. 28; A/HRC/4/28/Add.1, para. 22; E/CN.4/2005/51/Add.1, para. 20; A/HRC/7/3/Add.1, para. 57; E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.1, para. 49; E/CN.4/2005/62/Add.1, paras. 487-505; A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, para. 698; and A/HRC/4/37/Add.1, para. 219.

<sup>42</sup> A/HRC/7/G/5, paras. 31-32, A/HRC/7/11/Add.1, para. 29; A/HRC/4/28/Add.1, para. 23; E/CN.4/2005/51/Add.1, para. 21; A/HRC/7/3/Add.1, para. 57; E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.1, para. 49; E/CN.4/2005/62/Add.1, paras. 506-507; A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, paras. 701-702, A/HRC/4/37/Add.1, para. 221.

<sup>43</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, paras. 6 and 20.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid., para. 18.

<sup>45</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 17.

<sup>46</sup> E/CN.4/2000/131, page 15.

<sup>47</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 103.

<sup>48</sup> E/CN.4/2000/131, p. 13.

<sup>49</sup> E/CN.4/2000/131.

<sup>50</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para. 22.

<sup>51</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.72, paras. 41 and 42.

<sup>52</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 15. See also paras. 52-53.

<sup>53</sup> E/CN.2000/131, p. 15.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., para. 67.

<sup>55</sup> E/CN.4/2000/131, p. 9.

<sup>56</sup> A/53/44, para. 118 (e).

<sup>57</sup> A/HRC/8/4/Add.1, paras. 108-110.

<sup>58</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (e); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (e); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (e); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (e).

<sup>59</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 79 (c).

<sup>60</sup> A/HRC/7/G/5, para. 23.

<sup>61</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (g); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (g); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (g); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (g).

<sup>62</sup> E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 31.

<sup>63</sup> Resolution 2004/11, para. 2.

<sup>64</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 14.

<sup>65</sup> E/CN.4/2000/131, pages 9-10.

<sup>66</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (i); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (i); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (i) ; E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (i).

<sup>67</sup> Opinion No. 9/2003 of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.1, p. 47

<sup>68</sup> See for example E/CN.4/2005/62/Add.1, paras. 488-505. See also E/CN.4/2004/60/Add.1, para. 21.

<sup>69</sup> HC press release, "High Commissioner for Human Rights concerned over sentencing of recent detainees in Cuba", 9 April 2003.

<sup>70</sup> A/HRC/4/12, summary.

<sup>71</sup> Resolution 2004/11, para. 1.

<sup>72</sup> Opinion No. 9/2003 of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, E/CN.4/2004/3/Add.1, para. 24.

<sup>73</sup> E/CN.4/2004/G/41. See also E/CN.4/2005/62/Add.1, paras. 506-507, and E/CN.4/2004/60/Add.1, para. 22.

<sup>74</sup> A/HRC/4/12, summary, and paras. 18-22. See also annex, "List of persons from civil society arrested in March-April 2003 and still in prisons".

<sup>75</sup> Ibid., para. 23, E/CN.4/2006/33 para. 24, E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 28.

<sup>76</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (a); E/CN.4/2006/33 para. 35 (a); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (a); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (a).

<sup>77</sup> A/HRC/7/14/Add.1, paras. 163-168, A/HRC/4/27/Add.1 paras. 168-175, E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, paras. 241-254, A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, paras. 684-708; E/CN.4/2006/6/Add.1, paras. 47-48; A/HRC/7/11/Add.1, paras 28-29.

<sup>78</sup> A/HRC/7/14/Add.1, paras. 163-168; A/HRC/4/27/Add.1 paras. 176-182; E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, paras. 241-254; A/HRC/7/11/Add.1, paras. 28-29; and A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, paras. 684-708.

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<sup>79</sup> A/53/44, para. 113.

<sup>80</sup> E/CN.4/2006/55/Add.1, paras. 241, 242 and 252. See also E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 28; E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 30.

<sup>81</sup> A/53/44, para 118 (i); A/HRC/4/12, para. 35 (h); E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35 (h); E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36 (h); E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35 (h). See also E/CN.4/2006/95/Add.5, para. 442.

<sup>82</sup> E/CN.4/2005/64/Add.1, paras. 271 and 277; A/HRC/4/27/Add.1, para. 168

<sup>83</sup> E/CN.4/2005/64/Add.1, para. 278. See also A/HRC/4/27/Add.1, para. 176.

<sup>84</sup> See United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, at <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg>.

<sup>85</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 15. See also E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 10.

<sup>86</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para. 8.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid., para. 24.

<sup>88</sup> Ibid., para. 9; ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, doc. no. (ILOLEX) 092008CUB111, para. 4. See also E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 68.

<sup>89</sup> ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2008, Geneva, doc. no. (ILOLEX) 092008CUB100, para. 1.

<sup>90</sup> Ibid., doc. no. (ILOLEX) 092007CUB079. See also CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 40.

<sup>91</sup> ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, 2007, Geneva, doc. no. (ILOLEX) 092007CUB138, paras. 1 and. 3.

<sup>92</sup> Ibid., doc. no. (ILOLEX) 062008CUB087.

<sup>93</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, paras. 68.

<sup>94</sup> See [www.paho.org/English/DD/AIS/cp\\_192.htm#respuesta](http://www.paho.org/English/DD/AIS/cp_192.htm#respuesta).

<sup>95</sup> Ibid..

<sup>96</sup> World Bank, World Development Report 2004, Washington DC, 2003, p. 157; see [www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/TW3P/IB/2003/10/07/000090341\\_20031007150121/Rendered/PDF/268950PAPER0WDR02004.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/TW3P/IB/2003/10/07/000090341_20031007150121/Rendered/PDF/268950PAPER0WDR02004.pdf).

<sup>97</sup> UNAIDS/WHO, AIDS Epidemic Update December 2005, Geneva, 2005, p. 5; see [www.unaids.org/epi/2005/doc/EPIupdate2005\\_pdf\\_en/epi-update2005\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/epi/2005/doc/EPIupdate2005_pdf_en/epi-update2005_en.pdf).

<sup>98</sup> Ibid., p. 58.

<sup>99</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para 27. See also CRC/C/15/Add.72, paras. 21 and 37.

<sup>100</sup> A/HRC/7/5/ Add.3 paras. 67-68.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid., para.16.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid., para.69.

<sup>103</sup> See United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, at <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg>.

<sup>104</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3 para. 79 (b), (d), (e) and (j).

<sup>105</sup> A/HRC/7/G/5, annex.

<sup>106</sup> UNESCO, Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2005, Paris, 2004, p. 51; see <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001373/137333e.pdf>.

<sup>107</sup> UNESCO, Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2006, Paris, 2005, p. 33; see <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001416/141639e.pdf>

<sup>108</sup> United Nations Statistics Division coordinated data and analyses, available at: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg>.

<sup>109</sup> A/63/93, pp. 93-94, para. 1. See also UNHCR, Global Appeal 2008-2009, Geneva, 2007, p. 323, at [www.unhcr.org/home/PUBL/474ac8e83.pdf](http://www.unhcr.org/home/PUBL/474ac8e83.pdf).

<sup>110</sup> A/63/93, p. 94, para. 2.



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- <sup>111</sup> A/53/44, para. 108.
- <sup>112</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 67.
- <sup>113</sup> See [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cuba.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cuba.html).
- <sup>114</sup> UNESCO, Education For All Global Monitoring Report 2005, Paris, 2004, p. 49; see <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001373/137333e.pdf>.
- <sup>115</sup> Ibid., p. 51.
- <sup>116</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 3.
- <sup>117</sup> A/HRC/4/12, summary; E/CN.4/2006/33, summary; E/CN.4/2005/33, summary; E/CN.4/2004/32, summary.
- <sup>118</sup> See CCA for Cuba, 2004, p. 52, at [www.undp.org/cu/documentos/2004%20ONU%20Cuba%20CCA.pdf](http://www.undp.org/cu/documentos/2004%20ONU%20Cuba%20CCA.pdf).
- <sup>119</sup> A/HRC/4/12, paras. 5-11.
- <sup>120</sup> CEDAW/C/CUB/CO/6, para. 4; CERD/C/304/Add.60, para. 3; CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 8, A/53/44, para. 109; A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, paras. 23-27 and 77, and E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, paras. 16 and 70-72.
- <sup>121</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 24.
- <sup>122</sup> E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2, para. 16.
- <sup>123</sup> General Assembly decision 46/407 and resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12, 61/11, 62/3 and 63/7.
- <sup>124</sup> See A/63/93. See also A/62/92; A/61/132; and A/60/213.
- <sup>125</sup> See Marco de Asistencia de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (MANUD) 2008-2012, p. 10, at [www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf](http://www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf).
- <sup>126</sup> Ibid., p. 9. See also UNDP, Human Development Report 2007/2008, New York, 2007, p. 183, at: [http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR\\_20072008\\_EN\\_Complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_20072008_EN_Complete.pdf); [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cuba.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/cuba.html), and A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 75.
- <sup>127</sup> UNDP, Human Development Report 2007/2008, New York, 2007, p. 183, available at: [http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR\\_20072008\\_EN\\_Complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_20072008_EN_Complete.pdf).
- <sup>128</sup> E/CN.4/2000/14, summary.
- <sup>129</sup> Pledges and commitments undertaken by Cuba before the Human Rights Council, as contained in the letter dated March 2006 sent by the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly, available at [www.un.org/ga/60/elect/hrc/cuba.pdf](http://www.un.org/ga/60/elect/hrc/cuba.pdf).
- <sup>130</sup> A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, para. 79.
- <sup>131</sup> A/HRC/4/12, para. 35; E/CN.4/2006/33, para. 35; E/CN.4/2005/33, para. 36; E/CN.4/2004/32, para. 35.
- <sup>132</sup> CRC/C/15/Add.72, para. 7.
- <sup>133</sup> WHO, The World Health Report 2006, Geneva, 2006, p. 102, see [www.who.int/whr/2006/whr06\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/whr/2006/whr06_en.pdf).
- <sup>134</sup> See Marco de Asistencia de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (MANUD) 2008-2012, p. v, at [www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf](http://www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf).
- <sup>135</sup> A/63/93, p. 83, para. 2.
- <sup>136</sup> See Marco de Asistencia de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (MANUD) 2008-2012, p. 10, at [www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf](http://www.undg.org/docs/8685/MANUD---CUBA.pdf). See also A/HRC/7/5/Add.3, paras. 61 and 62.