



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
4 November 2019

Original: English

---

## Seventy-fourth session

Agenda item 39

### **Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba**

#### **Letter dated 29 October 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to attach herewith the final declaration of the sixteenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society Organizations against the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba, adopted in Havana on 22 October 2019 (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39.

(Signed) Ana Silvia **Rodríguez Abascal**  
Ambassador  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 29 October 2019 from the Chargé  
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the  
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

[Original: Spanish]

**Final declaration of the sixteenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society  
Organizations against the Blockade**

**Havana, 22 October 2019**

We, the representatives of Cuban civil society organizations, with the support of regional and international organizations with headquarters in Cuba, social actors and organizations, and religious, fraternal and national institutions, meeting at the sixteenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society Organizations against the Blockade, have agreed to:

- Reaffirm that the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the Government of the United States of America against the people of Cuba is the main constraint on our country's economic development, is an obstacle to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has a negative impact on the work of civil society organizations.
- Recall the action taken against the Government of the United States of America for maintaining this genocidal policy, which has caused considerable human and economic damages to the people of Cuba, totalling, according to conservative estimates, more than \$138,843,400,000 at current prices, over the almost 60 years of its implementation.
- Express our total rejection of the application of the Helms-Burton Act, an abomination of a legal instrument designed to exert political coercion through economic pressure that violates the sovereignty of Cuba and third countries and thereby to perpetuate the climate of hostility between Cuba and the United States of America and deny the Cuban nation the right to independence and self-determination.
- Strongly condemn the intensification of the commercial and financial embargo, including the obstruction by the Government of the United States of vessels transporting fuel to Cuba and demand that they be accorded free access to our territory.
- Reiterate that the embargo constitutes a massive, flagrant and systematic violation of the human rights of all Cuban women and men and qualifies as an act of genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948 and as an act of war under the Declaration of London of 1905.
- Reaffirm the right to peace and self-determination of the Cuban people in building their own political, economic and social system, without external interference, and to express our determination to continue building a socialist, prosperous, sustainable, inclusive, participatory, independent and sovereign homeland, remaining faithful to our principles.
- Call upon United States citizens and counterpart organizations in the United States and elsewhere in the world to maintain their support for the Cuban people in order to bring an end to this obsolete and unjust policy, which also affects the normal development of relations between our peoples, and express our thanks for the solidarity of all those who have remained by our side in this tireless struggle.

- Support the battle waged by the Government of Cuba for the Government of the United States to lift the embargo in a unilateral and unconditional manner, respecting the norms of international law and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
  - Support the submission, at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, of the draft resolution “Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba” and call upon the international community to continue to provide its long-standing support.
-