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

Letter dated 6 December 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation expressing solidarity with the people of the Republic of Cuba and looking forward to the strengthening of Russian-Cuban relations (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 39.

(Signed) V. Nebenzia



Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation expressing solidarity with the people of the Republic of Cuba and looking forward to the strengthening of Russian-Cuban relations

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation welcomes the resolution adopted on 7 November 2019 by the General Assembly of the United Nations entitled “Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba”. The document, which was approved for the twenty-eighth time by the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations, reaffirms the support of the international community for an independent Cuba.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation strongly condemns the destructive actions of the United States of America against Cuba, which have lasted for six decades and represent, in effect, an act of economic aggression against the Cuban people. In the past year alone, the damage caused by the embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba amounted to more than \$4 billion, while the total damage over the entire span of the embargo has reached almost \$1 trillion.

Unilateral sanctions that bypass the Security Council of the United Nations serve only one purpose: to force the Governments of sovereign States to act in the interests of those who use economic repression. However, the tenaciousness shown by Cuba has been inspiring other countries that have experienced economic aggression by the United States of America to resist and stay on their independent political course. Economic coercion is a neocolonial policy that is unlawful and categorically unacceptable in the emerging multipolar world. Every effort should be made to banish this practice, which undermines democracy and violates human rights and freedoms, from contemporary international relations.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation reaffirms its principled position in support of solidarity with the friendly people of Cuba and building multilateral ties with the Republic of Cuba. The year 2019 marks the sixtieth anniversary since the recognition of the Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Cuba by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The year 2020 will mark the sixtieth anniversary since diplomatic relations between our countries were restored, which is yet another reason to strengthen the partnership between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Cuba, including in the parliamentary sphere. In 2020, our peoples will also celebrate together the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Great Victory.

An official visit by a delegation representing the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Cuba, which took place from 14 to 17 November 2019, demonstrated the high potential for interparliamentary relations between our countries and contributed to the development of clear guidelines for developing such relations with a view to deepening and intensifying bilateral cooperation in general. Russian and Cuban parliamentarians are actively cooperating within the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other international forums, and are taking a common approach to promoting democratic international relations and countering unilateral measures that place political or economic pressure on sovereign States.

The Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation calls on all parliaments of foreign States, the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament, the Central American Parliament, the Parliament of the Southern Common Market, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Parliament to express support for the people of Cuba and to strongly condemn the continuing economic, commercial and financial embargo of the Republic of Cuba.

Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
