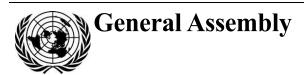
United Nations



Distr.: General 11 June 2021

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session Agenda item 42 Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

Letter dated 10 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith the final declaration of the seventeenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society Organizations against the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba, held virtually on 8 June 2021 (see annex).

In this regard, I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42.

> (Signed) Pedro L. Pedroso Cuesta Ambassador Permanent Representative





Annex to the letter dated 10 June 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Spanish]

Final declaration of the seventeenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society Organizations against the Blockade

Havana, 8 June 2021

The draft resolution entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba" will be presented on 23 June 2021 at the resumed seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly. On the occasion of the upcoming presentation, 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 seventeenth Forum of Cuban Civil Society Organizations against the Blockade, have agreed to:

- 1. Unequivocally condemn the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the Government of the United States of America against the Cuban people.
- 2. Denounce the progressive and systematic increase in the aggressiveness of United States policy against our people and against all sovereign States that maintain or attempt to establish economic, commercial and financial relations with Cuba.
- 3. Condemn the criminal, extraterritorial and genocidal nature of the embargo, which is exacerbated and even more cruel in the midst of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
- 4. Express once again that the embargo constitutes a substantial hindrance to the right to development of the Cuban people. It generates shortages and suffering for Cuban families, with a significant humanitarian impact, and hinders access to medication, medical equipment, technology and state-of-the-art therapeutic treatments that help to relieve and cure many diseases.
- 5. Reiterate that the embargo is an inhumane policy that violates the basic right to life and health of an entire population.
- 6. Acknowledge and express our gratitude for the broad and effective solidarity shown towards our country by thousands of civil society organizations around the world, including those of the people of the United States. We highly value their support and solidarity in the struggle to put an end to the unjust and immoral policy applied by the Government of the United States against our people. We urge them to continue to speak out against the embargo and to intensify actions to demand that the Government of the United States be consistent with the universal rejection of this policy and put an end to it.
- 7. Express our total rejection of the illegal Helms-Burton Act, an abomination of a legal instrument that was designed to exert political coercion and is aimed at not only suffocating us economically, but also internationalizing the embargo through coercive measures in the commercial and financial spheres that violate sovereignty and affect third-country entities and nationals.
- 8. Declare that the inclusion of Cuba in the list of State sponsors of terrorism is a unilateral action, devoid of moral and legal justification, which has a negative

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impact on every aspect of Cuban society, since it makes it more difficult for the country to engage in international trade and conduct financial operations.

- 9. Reaffirm the right to 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, independent and sovereign homeland.
- 10. Reiterate that the embargo, imposed by the Government of the United States of America against the people of Cuba, is the main obstacle to the implementation of the National Economic and Social Development Plan 2030, and therefore to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 11. Support the submission, at the seventy-fifth 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 provide its support for this noble cause.

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