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Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba**Letter dated 30 October 2023 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 from the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba (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 38.

(Signed) V. Nebenzia



Annex to the letter dated 30 October 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement from the State Duma to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba

The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addresses the participants in the seventy-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations with a call for an immediate and complete end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo of the Republic of Cuba put in place by the leadership of the United States of America that has become a tool for exerting multifaceted pressure on the Cuban people.

The State Duma reaffirms the firm and unchanging position set out in the documents adopted in previous years regarding the need for Washington to end its policy of pressure on Havana.

The State Duma expresses its strong condemnation of the gross violation by the United States of America of the fundamental principles of international law that is manifested in the systematic attempts to intimidate the Republic of Cuba and in numerous inhumane actions to deprive the Cuban people of the material resources necessary for a decent life.

As a result of the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America, the Republic of Cuba is in a difficult economic and humanitarian situation that is exacerbated by the consequences of a series of natural and human-made disasters.

The illegal actions of the United States authorities against the people of the Republic of Cuba have a negative impact on the latter's well-being, jeopardize the right to a dignified existence for millions of Cubans, are detrimental to their health, cause mental and physical suffering and limit their access to vital medical care. The artificial instigation of a humanitarian crisis through this embargo has created the conditions for an increase in the number of premature deaths and a decrease in the birth rate.

The sanctions measures imposed by the United States of America on the Republic of Cuba are extraterritorial in nature and directly impede the fostering of equal and mutually beneficial relations with Cuba by a number of States and international organizations, including in the areas of energy, agriculture, health care, tourism and humanitarian cooperation.

The State Duma notes that, in the face of the long-standing economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America, the people of the Republic of Cuba remain steadfast in their determination to firmly defend their sovereignty and social gains. The willingness of Cubans to confidently follow the path of defending their national independence makes the embargo meaningless and condemns it to inevitable failure.

The policy of unilateral sanctions has proved to be completely ineffective. The practice of applying such sanctions has proved unable to restrain the aspirations of peoples to freedom and independence. Such policies only prolong and multiply the mental and physical suffering of the people, while setting precedents for unacceptable pressure and extortion. This assessment applies to all regions of the world and applies fully to the situation in the Republic of Cuba.

The State Duma addresses the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations with this call to condemn the illegal economic, commercial and financial embargo of the Republic of Cuba by the United States of America, to develop and implement practical measures to encourage Washington to put an end to the long-standing embargo of Cuba, to put an end to the pressure on the Cuban people and to guarantee respect for the universally recognized principles and norms of international law.

V. V. Volodin

Chair of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly
of the Russian Federation

Moscow
24 October 2023
