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Point 9 de l'ordre du jour provisoire

**QUESTION DE LA VIOLATION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME ET DES LIBERTÉS
FONDAMENTALES, OÙ QU'ELLE SE PRODUISE DANS LE MONDE**

**Lettre datée du 16 novembre 2004, adressée à la Haut-Commissaire des Nations Unies
aux droits de l'homme par la Mission permanente de Cuba
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève**

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir le texte de la déclaration du Ministère des affaires étrangères de la République de Cuba, formulée en réponse aux mensonges, calomnies et fausses accusations proférés contre Cuba par le Département d'État des États-Unis d'Amérique dans son communiqué de presse intitulé: «Cuba: Human Rights Situation».

Le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique est celui qui viole le plus les droits de l'homme dans le monde. De fait, c'est lui qui, depuis plus de 40 ans, foule aux pieds les droits les plus élémentaires du peuple cubain tout entier par l'imposition d'un blocus économique, commercial et financier cruel et génocidaire. Dès lors, le Gouvernement des États-Unis n'a pas la moindre autorité morale pour accuser Cuba, a fortiori lorsqu'il a recours à des mensonges et des diatribes anticubaines pour tenter de justifier sa politique d'agression et d'hostilité envers notre pays.

Dans ce contexte, je vous serais reconnaissant de bien vouloir faire publier le texte de la déclaration du Ministère des affaires étrangères* joint en annexe, en tant que document officiel de la soixante et unième session de la Commission des droits de l'homme, au titre du point 9 de son ordre du jour.

L'Ambassadeur
(Signé) Jorge Iván Mora **Godoy**

* Document reproduit en annexe tel qu'il a été reçu, dans la langue originale et en anglais seulement.

Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Cuba rejects United States Government calumnies

On 4 November 2004, the United States Department of State issued a press release entitled "Cuba: Human Rights Situation", containing the usual lies, calumnies and accusations against Cuba concerning alleged human rights violations.

The press release states that, in March 2003, Cuba unleashed "a sweeping crackdown on independent civil society activists". This is a bare-faced lie by the Department of State. The Cuban courts, acting in accordance with Cuban law, punished not activists but mercenaries who were given orders and large amounts of money by the United States Government to carry out illegal acts within Cuba to further its policy of blockade and aggression against this country. Conspiring with a foreign Power is a crime in any country, including the United States.

International public opinion might quite reasonably have hoped that, in the wake of the revelations concerning the incredible abuses and violations of human rights committed in the prisons of Iraq and at the illegal naval base at Guantánamo, the United States Government would adopt a more rational, less arrogant stance when considering the situation of human rights in any country in the world. Yet, barely two days after the United States elections, it quickly renewed its offensive against Cuba in this surprising fashion.

The United States Government has no moral authority whatsoever for levelling accusations at Cuba. The United States Government is the world's leading violator of human rights. It is that Government which, by means of a cruel, inhuman and genocidal blockade, has for more than 40 years violated the human rights of the entire Cuban people. It is President Bush who has with such ferocity stepped up this aggressive and hostile policy to unprecedented levels in his obsessive desire to crush the Cuban revolution.

The Cuban people are well aware that Bush and his closest allies in the anti-Cuban mafia are uncomfortable with the example set by Cuba in terms of social justice, genuine democracy and respect for human rights. We stand for a viable political, economic and social alternative which is diametrically opposed to the ideals of world domination and unilateral hegemonism that the current leaders of the United States Government are attempting to impose.

It is the United States Administration which, in flagrant violation of the principles of international law, creates, organizes and funds cells of ruthless mercenaries with annexationist objectives to engage, together with the United States Interests Section in Havana, in illegal activities against the constitutional order of the Republic of Cuba.

It is the United States Government that allows anti-Cuban organizations within its territory to plan, organize and conduct terrorist activities against Cuba, while unjustly holding five young Cuban anti-terrorist fighters in prison, under incredibly harsh conditions including isolation.

It is the United States Administration that violates the rights of millions of American citizens by prohibiting them from travelling to or conducting business with Cuba, or even appreciating Cuban art and culture. This shows yet again how they fear the achievements of the revolution, which leaves them no choice but to resort to lies.

They are further mistaken if they believe that with spurious accusations and diatribes against Cuba they will alter the course of the revolution or the unshakeable determination of our people to defend their independence to the last drop of blood.

It is regrettable that only hours after the 2 November elections we find ourselves compelled to speak these truths.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Havana, 5 November 2004
