



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 November 2014
English
Original: Russian

Sixty-ninth session

Agenda item 40

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

**Letter dated 3 November 2014 from the Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith an Appeal from the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the commercial, economic and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 40.

(Signed) V. Churkin



Annex to the letter dated 3 November from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation

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

In connection with the forthcoming consideration by the United Nations General Assembly on 28 October 2014 of the draft resolution 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 reaffirms its position set out in the statements of 14 October 1994 on the ending of the economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 17 May 1995 in connection with the consideration in the United States Congress of draft legislation tightening the economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 6 March 1996 on the deterioration of American-Cuban relations, of 22 March 1996 in connection with the adoption of the Helms-Burton Act and of 1 October 1999 in connection with the continuing economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, and in the appeals of 3 November 2006 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations in connection with the continuing economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 18 October 2007 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations in connection with the necessity of ending the economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 17 October 2008 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations in connection with the necessity of ending the economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba and providing assistance to the Republic of Cuba in dealing with the destructive effects of a natural disaster, of 23 October 2009 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 22 October 2010 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba, of 20 November 2012 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba and of 22 October 2013 to the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba.

For more than 50 years, the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba has hindered the development of the sovereign State of Cuba, which has the inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social and cultural system. Furthermore, the unilateral measures taken by the United States of America, bypassing the United

Nations, are an infringement of the rights and legitimate interests of Cuban citizens living in other States and of third States.

The State Duma notes with regret that in September 2014 the implementation of the Trading with the Enemy Act was once again extended, supposedly in accordance with the national interests of the United States of America. This policy is incompatible with the requirement of unconditional respect for the generally accepted principles and norms of international law, particularly the principles of sovereign equality of States and non-interference in their internal affairs, and respect for the principle of freedom of international trade and navigation.

The State Duma notes with appreciation the release of Fernando Gonzales in February 2014 and calls for the speedy release of the other three members of the “Cuban Five” who are still in detention in the United States of America.

The Deputies of the State Duma firmly support the aspiration of the peoples of the world to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed against the Republic of Cuba, which is confirmed by the almost unanimous adoption on 29 October 2013 of the General Assembly resolution on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

The State Duma is firmly opposed to the inclusion of Cuba in the list of alleged State sponsors of terrorism that is maintained on a unilateral basis by the United States of America without considering the views of the overwhelming majority of Member States of the United Nations.

While enduring the conditions of the embargo, the Republic of Cuba takes part in the global community on an equal footing. The State Duma acknowledges the role of the Republic of Cuba in the presidency of the sixty-seventh session of the World Health Assembly, which took place in Geneva in May 2014 and calls on the international community to contribute to the further development of the Republic of Cuba.

The State Duma again urges the Congress of the United States of America to listen to the international community and also to the growing voice of United States nationals in support of a review of the policy of the United States of America towards the Republic of Cuba, to consider repealing the Helms-Burton Act and other legislation preventing the development of commercial and economic cooperation with Cuba, in accordance with the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, and thus to usher in new, civilized, good-neighbourly and mutually advantageous relations between Cuba and the United States.

The State Duma appeals to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations to urge the United States to end the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba.

(Signed) S. E. Naryshkin
Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly
of the Russian Federation

Moscow
21 October 2014