

# *Regional Leaders Call for End to U.S. Blockade of Cuba at the United Nations*

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United Nations, September 21 (RHC-Granma)-- The call for an end to the economic, financial and commercial blockade imposed on Cuba by the United States was heard on the second day of the 72nd Regular Session of the UN General Assembly.

According to Prensa Latina news agency, Bolivian President Evo Morales described the blockade, in force for over 55 years, as an unjust and failed policy, adding that the U.S. must not only lift it, but also compensate Cuba for the damage caused to its people, and return the territory illegally occupied by the Guantánamo Naval Base.

Luis Guillermo Solís, President of Costa Rica, also harshly criticized the high social, human and economic cost of Washington's sanctions on the Cuban people. The aggressive unilateral economic policy is ineffective and constitutes a serious violation of the Cuban peoples' right to wellbeing and development, he said.

Guyanese President David Granger demanded an immediate end to the hostile policy which constitutes an obstacle to Cuba's development.

Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela recalled the historic meeting which took place between the presidents of the United States and Cuba during the 2015 Summit of the Americas, held in his country, and called to continue supporting dialogue, social peace and unity looking toward the next Summit to be held in Lima, Peru.

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