

# *Cuban lawmakers condemn US blockade on the island*

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Havana, October 9 (RHC)-- Cuba's National Assembly of People's Power (parliament) condemned Wednesday the U.S. economic, commercial and financial blockade against Cuba, and urged an end to that hostile policy.

In a statement, the legislative body's International Relations Commission reaffirmed its rejection of any policy contrary to the principles of international law and the United Nations Charter and the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace.

In the text, the Commission invited the United States Congress to heed the sentiment of broad sectors of American society that advocate an end to this policy against Cuba.

The statement also urged the world's parliamentarians to strengthen the international demand against the blockade and to support their respective foreign ministries in backing the draft resolution that Cuba will again present to the General Assembly (UNGA) on November 6, 2019, on this issue.

The document "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba" exposes the effects caused to the island by the most severe and prolonged siege applied against any country in history.

Between April 2018 and March 2019, these provisions have caused losses to Cuba in the order of four thousand 343.6 million dollars.

The declaration of the Cuban Parliament describes the blockade as a massive, flagrant and systematic violation of the human rights of the Cuban people and the main obstacle to its development.

Likewise, it states it constitutes a brake for the implementation of the National Economic and Social Development Plan, the Agenda 2030, and its Sustainable Development Goals.

It stresses that the intensification of the permanent persecution of Cuban financial transactions and Cuban banking and credit operations on a global scale has caused severe damage to the country's economy.

In the vote on this issue in 2018, the UN General Assembly approved the Cuban-sponsored resolution with 189 votes in favor and only two against, that of the United States and its ally Israel, in another ratification of the global condemnation of such U.S. policy.

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