

# *Debate on the blockade of Cuba begins at the UN General Assembly*

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Havana, November 1 (RHC) --The debate on the need to put an end to the U.S. economic blockade against Cuba began today at the United Nations General Assembly headquarters in New York City, the first of two days dedicated to analyzing the impact of that policy.

According to the scheduled agenda, fifty speakers will address the General Assembly on Wednesday, meeting for the thirty-first time, to vote tomorrow on the proposed resolution drafted by the Caribbean nation.

The report presented by UN Secretary General António Guterres recognizes the continuation of the siege against Cuba and its inclusion in the list of alleged state sponsors of terrorism as actions incompatible with an international system based on law.

Both actions by the United States are a flagrant manifestation of the exercise of political and economic power in clear violation of human rights, including the right to development. The effects of these measures are as obvious as they are inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, adds the text also made available to member states.

Despite this, Cuba continued to demonstrate its commitment to South-South cooperation as well as its ability to contribute to addressing global problems such as access to medical treatment and vaccines at the critical moment of the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the text, the situation in the Caribbean country only confirms the need to dismantle unilateral coercive measures, which undermine sovereign rights, the realization of human rights and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN called on the signatory countries of the resolution to maintain efforts to put an end to the unjust denial of Cuba's right to self-determination and development.

Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cuba, will intervene this Thursday in the forum to reflect on the effects of the unilateral policy reinforced to unprecedented levels in the context of the COVID-19; and later, for the thirty-first time, the international community will hold the vote.

Since the first presentation of the document, in 1992, this vote has reflected the world's support for Cuba's claim to its right to live without the effects of the blockade, catalogued as an act of genocide.

According to the Havana report, drawn up by virtue of UNGA resolution 77/7, entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba", the accumulated damages amount to 159 billion 084 million dollars, and between March 1, 2022 and February 28, 2023 alone, they reached 4 billion 867 million dollars. (Source:PL/ACN)

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