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Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Cuba

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its sixteenth session from 22 April to 3 May 2013. The review of Cuba was held at the 16th meeting on 1 May 2013. The delegation of Cuba was headed by H.E Mr. Bruno Rodriguez Parilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs. At its 18th meeting held on 3 May 2013, the Working Group adopted the report on Cuba.
2. On 14 January 2013, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Cuba: Guatemala, Montenegro and Thailand.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Cuba:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/16/CUB/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/16/CUB/2) and (A/HRC/WG.6/16/CUB/2/Corr.1).
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/16/CUB/3) and (A/HRC/WG.6/16/CUB/3/Corr.2).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Germany; Netherlands; Montenegro; Norway; Slovenia Sweden; Czech Republic; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Cuba through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Delegation of Cuba indicated that the economic, political and media blockade imposed by the United States is a mass, flagrant and systematic violation of human rights which causes damages, scarcities and hardships, but has not managed to hinder the provision of equal opportunities, the equitable distribution of wealth or the realization of social justice.
6. The relentless attempts by the United States to impose a “change of regime” on the Cuban people is a serious violation of its right to self-determination, which has failed to prevent the active, democratic and direct participation of its citizens in the construction of its constitutional order, the decisions adopted by its government or the election of its authorities.
7. Cuba is a State where there has not been a single extrajudicial execution; where there are no tortured or disappeared persons-
8. This report is the result of a broad and participatory process of consultations which involved several governmental institutions, the Parliament, several civil society organizations and other relevant institutions.
9. Significant economic and social changes have taken place since Cuba’s first presentation before this mechanism back in 2009. We have moved forward in the process of institutional development; we have continued to improve citizens’ participation and control

as the fundamental basis of our democracy and upheld our efforts to achieve a sustainable development with social justice.

10. Cuba remains committed to its irrevocable determination to move forward with its socialist, autochthonous, original, democratic and openly participatory development.

11. We have not come here to present a completed work. Neither do we accept the existence of a unique or universal democracy model, much less the imposition of the political system of the western industrialized countries.

12. One of the most transcendental developments occurred since the last session was the adoption by the National People's Power Assembly of the Guidelines for the Economic and Social Policy of Cuba, which are a set of essential decisions aimed at the updating of the Cuban economic and social model as well as a government program.

13. The system for the legal protection of human rights in Cuba is not confined to a description in the Constitution. Human rights are duly developed and guaranteed in other substantive and procedural provisions in force, in accordance with the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration and all other international human rights instruments.

14. The right to free universal education and health is guaranteed to everyone. The rights to life, liberty and security of persons are based on the principle of respect for human dignity and are the fundamental pillars in all the actions undertaken by the Cuban authorities and the functioning of the entire society.

15. Five Cuban anti-terrorists who are suffering an unjust and prolonged incarceration in the United States are devoid of every protection. Their legal defense was hindered and they were subject to cruel, inhumane and degrading treatments and several of them have not been allowed to be visited by their relatives.

16. Cuba recognizes respects and guarantees religious liberty without any discrimination whatsoever. All citizens' rights to freedoms of opinion, expression, information and press are recognized.

17. Democratization of Internet is urgently needed as well as the transfer of resources and suitable technologies for social communication.

18. Between 2010 and 2013 the United States has allocated 191.7 million dollars to the funding of organizations and hirelings, the use of information technologies for subversive purposes and illegal radio and television broadcasts intended to bring about a change of regime in Cuba.

19. In Cuba equality and non-discrimination are fully guaranteed. The Cuban government continues to implement a series of laws, policies and programs aimed at upholding of those principles.

20. Institutional racism was eradicated. We feel proud of our African heritage. Recently, a decision has been taken to appoint one Vice President of the Council of State to follow up and monitor the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. Similarly, the First Vice President of the Council of State and of Ministers was invested with powers to protect and oversee the exercise of children's rights.

21. The struggle against discrimination based on sexual orientation is another area where we have recorded a sustained progress.

22. Cuba's Penitentiary System is based on the principle of human enhancement. Cuba abides by all the precepts contained in the International Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and prioritizes the preventive approach through a number of social programs.

23. Through a number of cooperation programs, Cuba also contributes to the exercise and attainment of human rights of other peoples of the world.
24. Cuba maintains a high level of cooperation and interaction with the procedures and mechanisms of the United Nations system in the area of human rights which are implemented universally and on a non-discriminatory basis.
25. We have always expressed our unequivocal willingness to establish a dialogue on every issue and with all States on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, and the recognition of the right to self-determination.
26. We are open to a constructive and respectful dialogue.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

27. During the interactive dialogue, 132 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the interactive dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report. All written statements of the delegations are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, if available.¹
28. Namibia referred to the impact of the embargo imposed against Cuba on human development.
29. Nepal highlighted progress in several fields including women's rights, housing and food, and in meeting MDG's.
30. The Netherlands welcomed the migration law, raising concern over reported increase of arbitrary detention, harassment and abusive controls.
31. Nicaragua highlighted Cuba's commitment to human rights despite the blockade, and rejected convictions against five Cubans.
32. The Niger appreciated efforts made in field of health and education, women's rights and migration.
33. Nigeria appreciated Cuba's generous assistance to developing countries.
34. Norway welcomed Cuba's efforts on social, cultural and economic rights and remained concerned at the lack of protection of human rights defenders.
35. Oman highlighted Cuba's human rights promotion as a priority for all citizens.
36. Pakistan appreciated Cuba's progress, irrespective of resource constraints due to unilateral sanctions.
37. Panama highlighted Cuba's efforts to assist youth and children, equality in the rights of women and advances in the MDGs.
38. Peru underscored achievements in migration policy and in economic social and cultural rights, despite imposed restrictions.
39. The Philippines commended Cuba's leadership, especially on the right to food and on international cooperation.
40. Poland was concerned at reported violations against human rights defenders and reiterated treaty bodies' recommendations on establishing a national human rights institution.

¹ <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/upr/Sessions/16session/Cuba/Pages/default.aspx>

41. Qatar thanked the delegation for their presentation.
42. Romania congratulated Cuba for fulfilling most of the MDGs.
43. The Russian Federation noted considerable progress, particularly in social-economic areas, given the unilateral sanctions against Cuba.
44. Saudi Arabia welcomed Cuba's efforts to promote and protect human rights.
45. Senegal highlighted Cuba's efforts to improve the living conditions of its population despite multiple challenges.
46. Serbia highlighted the importance of updating children and youth on their rights, developing a hotline to prevent drug use.
47. Sierra Leone noted MDG achievements and appreciated Cuba's assistance, including in the medical field.
48. Singapore noted significant strides in education, health, and women empowerment.
49. Slovakia requested information on stakeholder consultation in preparing and bringing to public attention the national report.
50. Slovenia welcomed progress achieved, yet remained concerned at continuing restriction of freedoms of expression, assembly and association.
51. Solomon Islands commended achievements, and encouraged Government and stakeholders to collaborate in human rights.
52. Somalia thanked Cuba for its presentation and the achievements indicated in the national report.
53. South Africa commended Cuba's human rights protection and healthcare expansion in Africa.
54. South Sudan commended healthcare provision, including the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of Syphilis and HIV.
55. Spain referred to a number of planned legislative measures and hoped that these would result in human rights improvements.
56. Sri Lanka commended impressive strides made in human rights, despite significant challenges.
57. The State of Palestine commended Cuba's universal access to healthcare and the establishment of commissions for analysing racial discrimination.
58. The Sudan commended efforts to strengthen institutional capacity and improve the rights of children and persons with disabilities.
59. Sweden was concerned at freedom of expression restrictions, and at reportedly increased levels of arbitrary detention and intimidations of critics.
60. Switzerland commended the de facto moratorium on death penalty.
61. The Syrian Arab Republic commended achievements despite the embargo considered the worst form of human rights violation.
62. Tajikistan commended achievements regarding MDGs, and trusted that Cuba would continue combating human trafficking.
63. Thailand commended efforts regarding MDGs, rights to development, food, education and health.
64. Timor-Leste noted achievements in education, health and gender equality.

65. Togo welcomed measures in favour of elderly persons and Cuba's health care system.
66. Trinidad and Tobago noted ratification of human rights instruments and strong MDG performance.
67. Tunisia welcomed strengthened legal and institutional framework, encouraged Cuba to issue a standing invitation to Council Mandate holders, expressing solidarity with Cuba, which suffers 50 years of embargo.
68. Cuba indicated that regarding the national human rights institutions, there was not one single model for national human rights institutions. Cuba had a national system for the promotion and protection of human rights which functioned effectively and demonstrated positive and appropriate achievement of the aspirations and interests of the Cuban people.
69. Cuba said that the Cuban Government recognized respected and guaranteed compliance with labour principles and fundamental rights standardized by the International Labour Organization, which in her country had constitutional status.
70. Turkey commended the creation of travel opportunities for Cubans, expansion of ownership rights and encouragement of entrepreneurship.
71. Turkmenistan welcomed the delegation of Cuba.
72. Uganda commended achievement of MDGs 1, 2, 3 and 4 despite difficult circumstances, cooperation with human rights bodies and natural disaster programs.
73. Ukraine reiterated appreciation for medical assistance to Ukrainian children.
74. United Arab Emirates acknowledged attachment to economic, social and cultural rights to improve living conditions and social justice and steps taken to implement previous recommendations.
75. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed new migration law yet remained concerned about continued restriction of freedom of expression.
76. The United Republic of Tanzania commended Cuba's progress in the implementation of agreed recommendations despite major challenges, including the embargo and natural disasters.
77. The United States of America raised concerns on impediments to multiparty elections and freedom of expression, and referred to Alan Gross and Oswaldo Paya.
78. Uruguay underscored measures to advance human rights, migration, prison visits and MDGs, even in a context of economic blockade.
79. Uzbekistan welcomed Cuba's progress in the protection and promotion of human rights since the first review.
80. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) welcomed the delegation.
81. Viet Nam appreciated Cuba's commitments and commendable contributions to UPR.
82. Yemen appreciated the ratification of CPED and new legal rules to expand human rights legislation.
83. Zambia acknowledged the ratification of international instruments and achievement of some MDGs. Zambia requested Cuba to continue its reform process.
84. Zimbabwe praised Cuba for ensuring a balance between civil and political rights and social economic and cultural rights, notwithstanding the embargo.

85. Algeria welcomed Cuba's remarks to introduce their national report.
86. Angola commended achievements regarding MDG's, social legal reforms and the lifting of restrictions on trips abroad.
87. Mexico recognized progress despite the unilateral economic blockade, noting the elimination of the exit permit.
88. Armenia commended education improvements including access for students with special needs.
89. Australia welcomed progress in overseas travel, showing concern on restrictions on access to internet and reports on short term detention.
90. Austria commended positive measures and showed concern about cases of intimidation, arrests and imprisonment of journalists and members of the political opposition.
91. Azerbaijan commended Cuba's cooperation with the UN human rights system, and efforts to achieve the MDGs.
92. Bahrain noted achievements and encouraged Cuba to continue its efforts towards the development of Cuban society.
93. Bangladesh commended Cuba's success in health and welcomed economic reforms.
94. Barbados commended Cuba's improvements and urged the international community to support its efforts.
95. Belarus commended progress made in human rights.
96. Belgium welcomed the Cuban delegation.
97. Benin welcomed efforts on behalf on the elderly, persons with disabilities and women's rights and encouraged abolition of death penalty.
98. Bhutan commended Cuba's activities on education and health encouraging cooperating with UN human rights mechanisms.
99. Bolivia (Plurinational State of) welcomed the delegation.
100. Brazil recognized advances including migration reform, while facing a blockade incompatible with human rights.
101. Brunei Darussalam commended Cuba's commitment to promote the rights of the elderly.
102. Burkina Faso noted ratification of international instruments and efforts to improve housing and social security.
103. Burundi commended economic and social policy. It thanked Cuba for medical support during the Burundi civil war.
104. Cambodia congratulated Cuba for progress meeting most MDG's. It believed Cuba could do more.
105. Canada asked about the steps taken to provide human rights training for government officials.
106. Cape Verde commended progress for citizens and modernization of the economic system despite constraints.
107. Chad commended Cuba's efforts to improve promotion and protection of human rights.

108. The Cuban nation respected the abolitionist positions on the death penalty. Currently, nobody was serving that sentence. In Cuba there had never been, nor would there ever be, extrajudicial executions. Cuban judges were independent in their function of delivering justice.
109. Cuba said that progress had continued in recognizing and guaranteeing rights relating to sexual orientation and gender identity, guaranteeing in that way full and responsible enjoyment of sexuality.
110. Cuba said that culture was promoted in the country for all people. Efforts and progress to combat discrimination and the promotion of equality had been notable. The Cuban Government committed to achieving a gradual improvement of the Internet service it provided today, which for the most part was free and with social objectives.
111. The Delegation said that freedom of the press was guaranteed in Cuba. He reiterated the willingness of the Cuban Government to continue talks with the United States Government on the situation of Mr. Gross and of other individuals who were held in detention in Cuba and in the United States.
112. Chile remained concerned over the enjoyment of freedom of expression and rejected the embargo.
113. China called on the relevant country to remove the embargo which violates the human rights of the Cubans.
114. Colombia highlighted dialogue, cooperation and assistance as elements to reinforce national human rights efforts.
115. Comoros stressed Cuba's commitment to human rights.
116. Congo underlined Cuba's high standards achieved on education and health despite the embargo.
117. Costa Rica expressed concern about the lack of independent mechanisms to investigate allegations of torture.
118. Cyprus acknowledged Cuba's acceptance of recommendations from the last review.
119. The Czech Republic encouraged Cuba to promote and protect human rights.
120. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea encouraged Cuba to continue with its positive efforts.
121. The Democratic Republic of Congo acknowledged Cuba's progress, inter alia, in the areas of health and education.
122. Djibouti commended Cuba's efforts to create a national cohesion, despite remaining challenges.
123. The Dominican Republic welcomed the high level delegation.
124. Ecuador recognized progress in areas such as housing, rehabilitation of inmates and food sovereignty.
125. Egypt welcomed Cuba's efforts to achieve a higher quality of access to justice.
126. El Salvador highlighted the decision of Cuba to achieve all MDGs.
127. Eritrea recognized achievements despite the blockade.
128. Estonia recognized progress and invited Cuba to cooperate with special procedures and treaty bodies.

129. Ethiopia commended Cuba for overcoming challenges and pursuing the development of the country.
130. Referring to Cuba's signing of ICCPR and ICESCR, Finland asked about measures to amend the national legislation accordingly.
131. France welcomed Cuba's ratification of CPED.
132. Gabon welcomed Cuba's cooperation with the human rights mechanisms.
133. Germany remained concerned about on-going restrictions to access internet and censorship of critical websites.
134. Ghana recognized Cuba's contributions to education and health globally despite constraints.
135. Haiti congratulated Cuba for its national report.
136. Honduras noted legislation to improve immigration and relations with the Cuban diaspora.
137. Hungary commended Cuba for, inter alia, the migration policy and initiatives to increase access to information.
138. India commended Cuba for ending the exit permit requirement for its citizens.
139. Indonesia encouraged Cuba to continue to engage with human rights mechanisms.
140. Iran (Islamic Republic of) praised Cuba for its constructive engagement with the UPR.
141. Iraq commended Cuba's efforts in the areas such as health, education, gender equality and freedom of religion.
142. Ireland noted treaty body concerns regarding pre-trial, arbitrary and indefinite detention, et al.
143. Italy recognized progress and encouraged Cuba to continue reforming the economic system.
144. Jamaica commended adoption of the economic and social outline. It noted work on youth and gender issues.
145. Japan highlighted amendment of Migration Law yet expressed concern over short-term detention of political opponents.
146. Jordan appreciated efforts to strengthen the institutional framework. It commended Cuba for spearheading international efforts regarding the right to food.
147. Kazakhstan noted provision of information to Special Procedures and called to strengthen human rights commitments.
148. Kenya acknowledged achievements in many areas and contribution to universal promotion of human rights.
149. Kuwait welcomed Cuba's cooperation with international human rights institutions.
150. Kyrgyzstan welcomed the Cuban delegation.
151. Cuba said that there was no room for impunity in Cuba for those who violated human rights, nor any laws or rules that enshrined them.
152. Cuba said that arbitrary detention was not practised in Cuba. Detentions were carried out in accordance with the criminal procedure and for offences classified in criminal law. There were no clandestine secret detention centres. In Cuba, torture was not practised.

153. The Lao People's Democratic Republic noted enjoyment of all human rights despite constraints. It encouraged strengthened cooperation with the UN.
154. Lebanon welcomed Cuba's position and support in the UPR mechanism.
155. Lesotho acknowledged challenges faced in promoting and protecting human rights.
156. Madagascar encouraged greater account taken of social objectives in public decisions.
157. Malaysia noted Cuba's international solidarity in health and education.
158. Maldives commended achievements in health and education and progress in gender equality.
159. Mali welcomed cooperation with other countries on health and education. It praised literacy programs.
160. Mauritania expressed solidarity with Cuba and called the international community to accompany its development.
161. Argentina welcomed the ratification of CPED and adoption of the regulation for employment of persons with disabilities.
162. Montenegro asked if Cuba planned to ratify OP-CAT and establish an Independent NPM.
163. Morocco welcomed achievements in human development. It noted efforts to improve penitentiary conditions.
164. Mozambique noted human rights achievements.
165. Myanmar welcomed the delegation of Cuba.
166. Equatorial Guinea supported Cuba's social justice principles. It noted cooperation with UN treaty bodies.
167. Botswana welcomed achievements of some MDGs despite decades of economic blockade.
168. The delegation said that Cuba agreed to visits to the country from the Human Rights Council special rapporteurs, or other universal non-discriminatory mechanisms. In Cuba, arbitrary detentions and prison sentences for long periods without legal grounds occurred systematically in the Guantanamo Naval Base. The economic, trade and financial blockade by the United States against Cuba was a massive, flagrant and systematic violation of the human rights of its people.
169. He reiterated the commitment of Cuba to cooperating with the United Nations human rights system, the Human Rights Council and the UPR mechanism.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

170. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below will be examined by Cuba which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 24th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2013:**

- 170.1. **Ratify the core (Kazakhstan)/ other international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party (Burkina Faso)/Ratify as soon as possible, major international human rights instruments already signed (Cape Verde);**

170.2. Ratify the ICESCR (Romania, Maldives, Australia, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Japan, Slovenia, France, Austria)/ Accede (Czech Republic)/Promptly ratify (Italy)/Consider ratifying (Mexico)/Ratify and implement (Canada)/proceed quickly towards the ratification without reservations (Norway)/as soon as possible (Poland)/without any further delays (Slovakia)/at an early stage (Japan)/ Ratify and implement ICESCR without reservations or delay (Finland)/ and bring national legislation in compliance with relevant provisions of this Covenant (Czech Republic);

170.3. Subscribe to the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (El Salvador);

170.4. Ratify the ICCPR (Chile, Hungary, Estonia, Romania, Maldives, Australia, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Japan, Slovenia, Montenegro, France, Tunisia)/ Ratify and implement (Canada, Austria)/ Accede (Switzerland, Czech Republic)/Promptly ratify (Italy)/Consider ratifying (Mexico)/Proceed quickly towards the ratification of ICCPR without reservations (Norway)/and ensure full implementation of all provisions (Hungary)/ as soon as possible (Poland)/ without any further delays (Slovakia)/at an early stage (Japan)/ and take necessary measures to ensure its full implementation in the national legislation (Switzerland)/ Ratify and implement ICCPR without reservations or delay (Finland)/ and bring national legislation in compliance with relevant provisions of this Covenant (Czech Republic);

170.5. Ratify both the ICCPR and the ICESCR without restrictions and issue a standing invitation to the Special Rapporteurs to visit the country, especially those on human rights defenders, freedom of expression and independence of judges and lawyers (Sweden);

170.6. Ratify the Optional Protocol to ICCPR (ICCPR-OP-1) as soon as possible (Estonia);

170.7. Continue with measures carried out in order to (Argentina)/Ratify the Second Optional protocol to ICCPR (Montenegro 1) as soon as possible (Estonia)/ aiming at abolishing of the death penalty for all crimes or formalizing the de facto moratorium on the death penalty (Montenegro);

170.8. Confirm the signature of ICCPR and ICESCR without restriction to freedom of expression or assembly and take the necessary measures to incorporate them into its national legislation (Netherlands);

170.9. Ratify the OP-CEDAW, as recommended in the first cycle (Slovenia);

170.10. Consider ratifying (Armenia)/Access and ratify (Estonia)/Ratify the OP-CAT (France, Tunisia, Costa Rica)/and criminalize torture (Costa Rica);

170.11. Adhere (Honduras)/ Continue with the measures carried out in order to ratify the ICRMW (Argentina);

170.12. Subscribe (El Salvador)/Ratify the Optional Protocol to the CRPD (Austria);

170.13. Consider recognizing the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and study communications (Uruguay);

170.14. Adhere (Costa Rica)/Ratify the Rome Statute (France, Tunisia) of the International Criminal Court (Austria, Costa Rica);

170.15. Continue adopting new rules to widen the legislative grounds of human rights (Syrian Arab Republic);

- 170.16. Continue to adopt legal coverage of human rights (United Arab Emirates);
- 170.17. Continue to develop measures for the development of national legislation in accordance with international instruments in the field of human rights (Uzbekistan);
- 170.18. Continue to develop the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and develop social justice (Serbia);
- 170.19. Continue bringing national legislation into line with changes in its economic model and in accordance with the treaties to which it is party (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 170.20. Continue measures aimed at maintain the national legislation consistent with international human rights instruments (Belarus);
- 170.21. Continue developing the domestic legislation and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights (Bhutan);
- 170.22. Further improve the legal framework for the protection and promotion of human rights in conformity with its national conditions (China);
- 170.23. Review legislation in conformity with international commitments (Iraq);
- 170.24. Integrate the CAT in the domestic legislation (France);
- 170.25. Intensify efforts to harmonize all legislation (including its criminal law) to the Convention on Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Use of Child Pornography, extending their protection up to 18 years (Uruguay); Review all legislation related to children to harmonize it with the CRC (Honduras); Harmonize a child's protection legislation to international standards (Kazakhstan);
- 170.26. Take more active measures to promote real participation of NGOs and civil society institutions in the adoption of legislation to promote human rights (Iraq);
- 170.27. Continue to improve its human rights system in accordance with the will of the people (Nigeria);
- 170.28. Continue developing the institutional framework concerning the promotion and protection of human rights (Panama, Ukraine);
- 170.29. Pursue the development of its institutional framework concerning the promotion and protection of human rights (Democratic Republic of Congo);
- 170.30. Consider the possibility of adopting new measures to improve its human rights protection system (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 170.31. Strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and to continue expanding the social justice (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 170.32. Continue strengthening the democratic character of its institutions, laws, policies and programmes that maintain their clear popular and participatory nature (Algeria, Ecuador, Ethiopia);

- 170.33. Consider setting up an independent human rights commission in line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone); Consider the possibility of establishing a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris principles (Uruguay); Consider the possible establishment of a national human rights institution, according to the Paris Principles (Mexico); Establish a national institution for the protection of human rights in conformity with the Paris Principles (France);
- 170.34. Continue protecting its population from the effects of the blockade imposed by the United States (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 170.35. Continue to address the effects of unilateral blockade of the United States (Bolivia);
- 170.36. Continue to denounce in international forums the unilateral coercive measures, in particular the unacceptable economic blockade imposed by the United States and continue consolidating international efforts aimed at repealing it (Ecuador);
- 170.37. Further strengthen its institutional framework to enable it to defend its sovereignty and protect the human rights of its people (Zimbabwe);
- 170.38. Continue defending country's independence and sovereignty (Belarus);
- 170.39. Persists in its efforts despite the difficulties both internal and external it has to face (Comoros);
- 170.40. Address the negative impacts of unilateral economic measures and actual calamities that affect the country (India);
- 170.41. Continue with the policy of National Reconciliation as this is the best way to prosper and for nation building (Namibia);
- 170.42. Continue to promote dialogue with all States, on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and the right to choose their own political, economic and social system (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 170.43. Encourage to continue promoting its commitment to dialogue on all issues and with all states, on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and recognition of the right of every people to choose their own political, economic and social system (South Sudan);
- 170.44. Preserve with vigour the approach of cooperation, non-politicization and respectful dialogue among all nations in terms of human rights (South Sudan);
- 170.45. Continue to pursue its commitment to dialogue on all issues and with all States, on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and recognition of the right of every people to choose their own political, economic and social system (Mozambique);
- 170.46. Promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among the peoples of the world (Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea) along the ideas of peaceful co-existence and genuine cooperation and partnership (Eritrea);
- 170.47. Continue efforts to promote and protect the rights of all segments of the population (Nepal);

- 170.48. Continue its efforts to widen the protection of human rights and the security of its citizen in the country as a means of consolidating social justice (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 170.49. Continue achieving the widest enjoyment possible of human rights and basic freedoms (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 170.50. Launch new measures and initiatives to continue efforts to ensure a wider access to all of all human rights and fundamental freedom (Algeria);
- 170.51. Promote new actions and initiatives to continue progressing in its efforts to achieve the widest possible enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all (Turkmenistan);
- 170.52. Maintain and strengthen measures to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights (Bahrain);
- 170.53. Further ensure the enjoyment of human rights in particular in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development (Cambodia);
- 170.54. Redouble all efforts to preserve the progress achieved in a number of areas such as culture, education, health and the fight against social inequality (Turkey);
- 170.55. Preserve the progress achieved in areas such as culture, education, health and the elimination of social inequality (Belarus);
- 170.56. Continue efforts to strengthen measures to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights including social, political, economic and cultural rights (Botswana);
- 170.57. Continue its efforts for the development and the wellbeing of its population, particularly through education and training which even some of our countries also benefit from (Comoros);
- 170.58. Reinforce its achievements in the area of human rights (Congo);
- 170.59. Promote and protect all human rights for all (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 170.60. Continue to enhance the interests of the people of Cuba and overcome any undue process (Ethiopia);
- 170.61. Continue to ensure proper representation of social development goals in public decisions (Mauritania);
- 170.62. Continue implementing necessary measures to guarantee the safety of its citizens and to preserve the peaceful atmosphere and internal order and confidence in both the criminal justice system and the police system (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 170.63. Continue to improve the Cuban political system, upholding the values of the Cuban society and the national unity, and promoting the strengthening of its democracy (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 170.64. Continue efforts to strengthen participatory democracy, as a way to ensuring participation of citizens in public affairs (Botswana);
- 170.65. Work through the UN mechanism in progressive development of the third generation of human rights, particularly the value of international solidarity (Sudan); Promote the development of third generation rights, in

particular the value of international solidarity (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

170.66. Continue to support in international forums the right to self-determination and independence of peoples (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

170.67. Continue promoting (Bolivia) / to support (Lebanon) initiatives in defence (Bolivia (Plurinational republic of)) / to promote (Lebanon) international solidarity (Bolivia 6, Lebanon);

170.68. Continue to cooperate with other countries in health (Burundi, Kuwait, Ukraine);

170.69. Extend in the region the positive experience in education and health care, including through special training (Russian Federation);

170.70. Continue to promote the training and education of qualified people, especially in the sphere of health in developing countries (Tajikistan);

170.71. Continue the cooperation in health matters with the developing countries, particularly LDCs (Tanzania);

170.72. Continue to share its experiences in the area of health (Chad);

170.73. Internationalize the "*Milagro*" operation to restore vision to people with ophthalmological diseases (Haiti);

170.74. Expand and share with other countries the experiences in research on vaccines for diseases affecting the world population, especially in developing countries (India);

170.75. Continue and promote the training and education of qualified people especially in the sphere of health in the developing countries, and continue promoting initiatives in defence of international solidarity (Timor-Leste);

170.76. Promote in the international level Cuban educational programmes, such as "Yes, I can" and "Yes, I can continue" (Russian Federation);

170.77. Share its experiences in teachers and professors' training, and in adults' education (Chad);

170.78. Promote in the international scene the literacy and post-literacy Cuban programs named "*Yo sí puedo*" *Ya puedo leer y escribir* "and" *Yo sí puedo seguir* "(Haiti);

170.79. Continue its efforts to develop national information and education strategy which encourages a culture of disaster risk reduction (Yemen);

170.80. Further develop national information and public education strategy that encourages the culture of disaster risk perception (Oman);

170.81. Prioritize the protection of the right to life of Cubans in the fight against disasters and share its experiences with the countries of the region (Haiti);

170.82. Provide humanitarian assistance at the extent possible to neighbouring countries which need assistance because of man-made or natural catastrophes (Russian Federation);

- 170.83. Share experiences in disaster risk management with other countries (Sierra Leone);
- 170.84. Provide support to countries requesting assistance in case of natural disasters and other ravages of nature (Bangladesh);
- 170.85. Continue working against the catastrophic consequences of natural phenomena (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 170.86. Further strengthen the capacity to counter natural disasters (China);
- 170.87. To keep, as a priority for the country, the protection of the right to life of all Cubans in confronting the various dangers of disaster (Kuwait);
- 170.88. Continue efforts to prevent illicit drugs consumption and trafficking, which are a remaining problem without a social impact in Cuba (Egypt);
- 170.89. Continue with overall education regarding the rights of children with developing the preventive assistance concerning the use of drugs (Serbia);
- 170.90. Maintain the priority given to women and children (Senegal);
- 170.91. Continue implementing measures that make prevail the best interest of the child when the time comes for decision making (Panama);
- 170.92. Continue to pay particular attention to the protection of the rights of children and strengthen measures for the full realization of the rights of children with disabilities (Serbia);
- 170.93. Continue her policies to strengthen the rights of children (Viet-Nam);
- 170.94. Continue promoting efforts to support the youth, particularly in the area of education and employment, and set up programmes and suitable mechanisms to encourage their effective participation in the society (Qatar);
- 170.95. Strengthen community management to solve problems of groups at risk and prioritizes the attention to young people living in rural areas (Tajikistan);
- 170.96. Continue to take measures in order to support young people in terms of education and employment (Uzbekistan);
- 170.97. Continue providing specialized assistance to young people (Pakistan);
- 170.98. Intensify its efforts to collect more disaggregated data in different sectors (Morocco);
- 170.99. Increase constructive cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms (Russian Federation); Continue the international cooperation with the UN human rights machinery (State of Palestine); Continue cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms (Bolivia (Plurinational state of)); Continue to positively engage the UN human rights mechanisms and instruments (Zimbabwe);
- 170.100. Continue to contribute to the strengthening of the system of UN human rights on the basis of dialogue, non-politicization and cooperation (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

- 170.101. Continue to defend the cooperative approach (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) approach of cooperation (Eritrea) non-politicization and respectful dialogue in the field of human rights (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) / mutual respect and non-politicization of human rights issues (Eritrea);
- 170.102. Seek assistance and technical expertise from the OHCHR to develop a common core document so as to streamline treaty reporting (Maldives);
- 170.103. Continue to support the UPR as a mechanism for respectful dialogue and exchange (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 170.104. Disseminate the results of the UPR and hold periodical comprehensive consultations, including with civil society sectors (Colombia);
- 170.105. Widely publish the outcome of this UPR and make regular and inclusive consultations with civil society an integral part of the follow-up to the UPR (Czech Republic);
- 170.106. Continue its cooperation and interaction with the Council and its mechanisms (Congo);
- 170.107. Fulfil obligations to the human rights mechanisms, including submission of outstanding reports and approving pending visits of Special Rapporteurs (Sierra Leone);
- 170.108. Extend/Issue a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (Austria, Spain, Hungary, Montenegro);
- 170.109. Work with the UN special procedures and maintain its willingness to cooperate with these mechanisms (El Salvador);
- 170.110. Take all necessary measures to facilitate the visits requested by UN Special procedures without further delay (Finland);
- 170.111. Respond favourably to requests to visit by the special procedures and extend to them an open invitation (France);
- 170.112. Invite as soon as possible the Special Rapporteur on torture (Spain);
- 170.113. Materialize the prearranged visit with the Special Rapporteur against Torture (Mexico);
- 170.114. Accept the request for a country visit made in 2011 by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Chile);
- 170.115. Continue its efforts to ensure full equality for all its citizens (South Africa);
- 170.116. Continue deploying its best efforts for the eradication of stereotypes, prejudices and negative attitudes of patriarchal, racial and gender-based nature (Peru);
- 170.117. Continue to implement measures (Turkey) / to eliminate (Vietnam) gender stereotypes in the national idiosyncrasy (Turkey, Viet-Nam);
- 170.118. Take measures in order to reduce gender stereotypes regarding the roles and the responsibilities of women in the family and in the society (Armenia);

- 170.119. Intensify awareness campaigns to combat gender stereotypes (Brazil);
- 170.120. Continue its efforts to combat prejudice and negative racial stereotyping (Argentina);
- 170.121. Continue to enhance women's rights and intensify awareness campaigns to combat stereotypes against women (Ghana);
- 170.122. Continue promoting (Turkey) / applying (Nicaragua) a gender perspective (Turkey) in its national policies (Nicaragua);
- 170.123. Continue to maintain its significant achievements in the empowerment of women (Nigeria);
- 170.124. Continue to improve its policies to protect and promote the rights of women and their empowerment (Bangladesh 3);
- 170.125. Continue its efforts to promote equality between women and men (Panama);
- 170.126. Continue to promote gender equality to ensure a level-playing field for all women in all wards of the society (Singapore);
- 170.127. Increase efforts on gender equality (El Salvador);
- 170.128. Deepen studies on gender perspective and prevent against any kind of discrimination in the media (Myanmar);
- 170.129. Continue working to achieve a greater women's leadership in agricultural cooperatives (Myanmar, Viet-Nam);
- 170.130. Add more content on gender equality and human rights to master's degree and courses of officials and law enforcement officers (Pakistan);
- 170.131. Continue the existing strengthening of the legal and institutional framework to combat racial discrimination and prejudice (South Africa);
- 170.132. Continue to promote the social inclusion and rights of its LGBT community and that the country's experience in this regard is actively shared with countries in the region and globally (Norway);
- 170.133. Strengthen publicity and awareness campaigns aimed at increasing knowledge among the population about the rights of LGBT people (South Africa);
- 170.134. Further expand the opportunities for dialogue on sexual orientation and gender identity (Brazil);
- 170.135. Promote efforts (Argentina);/Consider abolishing (Honduras 3)/abolish the death penalty (France, Switzerland) for all crimes (Switzerland);
- 170.136. Remove the death penalty from its criminal statutes and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Australia)
- 170.137. Consider the adoption of a *de jure* moratorium on executions, as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);
- 170.138. Maintain the moratorium on executions and consider moving towards abolition of death penalty (Italy);

- 170.139. Allow for independent investigations into the circumstances surrounding the deaths of Oswaldo Paya and Harold Cepero (United States of America); Carry out an independent investigation of the car accident of Oswaldo Payá (Czech Republic);
- 170.140. Implement legal safeguards to ensure protection of human rights defenders, including journalists, against abuse of provisions for criminal prosecution (Czech Republic) and release all political prisoners (Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovenia);
- 170.141. Ensure that prisoners or detainees are treated with dignity and humanity, with due consideration for the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Canada);
- 170.142. Maintain systematic and fluid relationships with the ICRC (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 170.143. Allow ICRC to gain access to prisons (Sweden);
- 170.144. Work to achieve additional progress in implementing the programme 'Educate Your Child' which aims at connecting the prisoners with their children who are less than 6 years and their families (Sudan);
- 170.145. Continue the 'Educate your Child' programme in the prisons (Dominican Republic);
- 170.146. Continue to ensure, as established, individual and collective religious assistance to those inmates who request it (Dominican Republic);
- 170.147. Further raise the quality of education on human rights for law enforcement officials and those directly involved with inmates (Pakistan);
- 170.148. Share experiences and best practices with regard to the treatment of prisoners (Bolivia (Plurinational Republic of));
- 170.149. Continue to promote the preventive approach in education and social reintegration to avoid delinquency (Dominican Republic);
- 170.150. Continue the policy incorporating inmates to education and job-training at different educational levels (Dominican Republic);
- 170.151. Take appropriate measures to establish a mechanism for monitoring detention places (Kazakhstan);
- 170.152. Continue the restoration of the prisons' infrastructure, particularly in the context of the Master Plan for Investment in the System of Prisons (Morocco);
- 170.153. Increase effort being carried out to combat violence against women (Timor-Leste);
- 170.154. Enhance efforts aimed at quality performance in the area of administration of justice (Syrian Arab Republic); Strengthen the efforts to reach a qualitative superior performance in the administration of justice (Viet-Nam);
- 170.155. Continue to apply measures aimed at achieving higher level of quality in the administration of justice (Colombia);
- 170.156. Implement the adopted investment plan for the judicial system, in order to improve the situation of detainees (Cape Verde);

- 170.157. **Strengthen the principle of legality with an emphasis in due process in conformity with international human rights norms (El Salvador);**
- 170.158. **Keep the direct fight against corruption as a means of ensuring the legality and trust in government and judicial institutions (Turkmenistan);**
- 170.159. **Maintain the frontal fight against corruption (Venezuela (Bolivarian republic of));**
- 170.160. **Take steps to strengthen the right to a fair trial and improve prison conditions through adherence to: the UN Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary and the Role of Lawyers; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and the Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 170.161. **Guarantee the independence of the judiciary and ensure the right to a fair trial as outlined by the UN Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary (Austria);**
- 170.162. **Improve transparency and due process in the criminal justice system by ensuring fair and public hearings within a reasonable timeframe, ensuring anyone arrested is promptly informed of the reasons for arrest and ensuring that defendants have access to effective representation by their defence counsel, functioning fairly and without undue constraint (Canada);**
- 170.163. **Amend the Law of Criminal Procedure in order to avoid the cases of indefinite extension of the preliminary investigation (Belgium);**
- 170.164. **Ensure access to an independent lawyer to all persons deprived of their liberty (Belgium);**
- 170.165. **Promote the fair justice principles consistent with international standards, especially by reviewing the legislation and implementation of pre-trial detention (Italy);**
- 170.166. **Adopt the measures necessary to guarantee the right of any person deprived of liberty to have access to an immediate remedy to challenge the legality of that detention (Ireland);**
- 170.167. **Maintain (Nicaragua) / Continue (India) its policy of respect and tolerance of all religious without discrimination / including the right not to profess any religion (Nicaragua) / in particular the right to choose one's own convictions (India);**
- 170.168. **Continue the country's policy in promoting the full religious freedom of all citizens (Viet-Nam);**
- 170.169. **Further increase (Uganda) / Continue to expand (Iran) popular participation in elections (Uganda) / in electoral (Iran (Islamic Republic of)) and decision making procedures (Uganda, Iran (Islamic Republic of));**
- 170.170. **Promote greater and effective use of the media to promote the rights of children (India);**
- 170.171. **Consolidate access to information and culture of all people (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**
- 170.172. **Remove restrictions on freedom of expression notably concerning the connection to the Internet (Romania); Reconsider all the laws that criminalize or restrict the right to freedom of expression and the right of**

internet freedom (Estonia); Lift restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression that are not in accordance with the UDHR, and to ensure affordable and unhindered access to the internet for all (Hungary);

170.173. Allow freedoms of expression, association and assembly, and allow human rights associations to obtain a legal status through inclusive and official registration (Spain);

170.174. Lift the restrictions that hinder free expression and ensure that human rights defenders and independent journalists are not victims of intimidations or arbitrary prosecutions and detentions (Switzerland);

170.175. End measures to restrict freedom of expression and assembly including short-term detentions and the use of criminal charges such as “precriminal social dangerousness”, “contempt” and “resistance” (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

170.176. Repeal legislation relating to so-called ‘pre-criminal social dangerousness’, as provided for in Articles 72, 73 and 74 of the Cuban Penal Code (Ireland);

170.177. Eliminate or cease enforcing laws impeding freedom of expression (United States of America);

170.178. Guarantee the freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, as well as the free activity of human rights defenders, to independent journalists and political opponents (France);

170.179. Enhance the protection of freedom of expression and thought, including, dissenting political opinions, and ensure free access to information for all, inter alia through the Internet (Italy);

170.180. Take further measures to improve freedom of expression by allowing for an independent media and improving access to information through public access to the internet by taking advantage of the recent investment in the fibre optic network (Canada);

170.181. Take effective measures to ensure the full realization of the rights to freedom of expression, including on internet, assembly and association (Czech Republic);

170.182. Strengthen the exercise of freedom of expression, assembly, association and participation (Eritrea);

170.183. Guarantee a safe, free and independent environment for journalists and ensure that all cases of attacks against them are investigated by independent and impartial bodies (Austria);

170.184. Put an end to repression, investigate acts of repudiation and protect all persons who are the targets of intimidation or violence (Netherlands);

170.185. Liberate immediately and unconditionally all the prisoners held in temporary detention or sentenced in connection with exercising their freedom of opinion and expression as well as freedom of assembly and association (Poland);

170.186. Take steps to protect and promote the freedom of expression and association of all peaceful defenders of human rights in the country (Norway);

170.187. Ensure that all living in Cuba can fully enjoy their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Poland);

- 170.188. **Release Alan Gross and imprisoned journalists such as Jose Antonio Torres immediately (United States of America);**
- 170.189. **Discontinue the limitations on civil society activities, including the short-term detention of political activists (Australia);**
- 170.190. **Refrain from the harassment, intimidation and arbitrary detention of human rights activities (Germany);**
- 170.191. **Halt short-term detentions, harassments and other repressive measures against human rights defenders and journalists and implement legal safeguards to ensure their protection against abuse of provisions for criminal prosecution (Hungary);**
- 170.192. **Take necessary measures to guarantee the rights to peaceful assembly and association in conformity with the law and the international standards (Switzerland);**
- 170.193. **Reduce government influence and control over the internet as part of a broader commitment to freedom of expression (Australia)**
- 170.194. **Put an end to online censorship (Germany);**
- 170.195. **Take steps to ensure the establishment of an unrestricted access to the internet for all, including by making use of the existing underwater high speed broadband cable (Germany);**
- 170.196. **Continue to develop policies aimed at improving information infrastructure for the benefit of Cuban society (Philippines);**
- 170.197. **Make the Internet widely available and accessible to the general public, given the recent technological arrangements with country's partners (Slovakia);**
- 170.198. **Enhance the quality and access to information and communication technologies (Sri Lanka);**
- 170.199. **Improve access to the Internet (Japan);**
- 170.200. **Consolidate access to information and culture for all people (Tajikistan);**
- 170.201. **Increase the quality in the social use and access to information and communication technologies (Turkmenistan);**
- 170.202. **Continue the expansion of broad band connectivity to Internet and confront the limitations imposed by the blockade (Venezuela (Bolivarian republic of));**
- 170.203. **Develop policies to improve information infrastructure for the benefit of the Cuban society (Pakistan);**
- 170.204. **Continue increasing the quality in the social use and access to information and communication technologies (Malaysia);**
- 170.205. **Continue to use the information and social media to promote the culture of human rights and, in particular, the rights of the child (Saudi Arabia);**
- 170.206. **Further strengthen protection to ensure the non-dismissal of workers diagnosed with HIV/AIDS (Kazakhstan);**

- 170.207. Continue to promote economic and social development (United Arab Emirates);
- 170.208. Continue its measures in favour of economic, social and cultural rights (Senegal);
- 170.209. Pursue the strengthening of its economic and social development (Somalia);
- 170.210. Continue to promote its poor people socio-economic policies for the improvement of its people (Zimbabwe);
- 170.211. Continue to implement the current projects and socio-economic development programs (Belarus); Continue implementing current socio-economic development projects and programmes for the promotion and protection of all human rights (Somalia);
- 170.212. Continue the practice of implementing the programmes aimed at further advancing the improved social welfare of the population, in particular the vulnerable ones (Cambodia);
- 170.213. Pursue all efforts to preserve the progress in culture, education, health and fight against social inequality (Egypt);
- 170.214. Continue its efforts to guarantee progress and improvement of the Cuban society as well as its sustainable development, the improvement of their living standard and progress towards a more just, free, independent and equitable society (Algeria);
- 170.215. Maintain updating the economic model, as a way to preserve the gains achieved by the Cuban people and to continue developing the broad potentials of Cuba and human resources (Bahrain);
- 170.216. Further improve the social security system and continue to assist vulnerable groups (China);
- 170.217. Continue its national efforts to focus on the quality and sustainability of development targets (Indonesia);
- 170.218. Continue strengthening its economic and social development (Jordan, Panama);
- 170.219. Continue its efforts to promote economic, cultural and social rights (Equatorial Guinea);
- 170.220. Make greater efforts to promote economic and social rights in a manner conducive to the furtherance of rights in the fields of labour, education, health and housing (Saudi Arabia);
- 170.221. Increase, within its limited resources, its capacity to achieve the MDGs and the right to development to all her people (Namibia);
- 170.222. Continue guaranteeing the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in order to reach the MDG's (Nicaragua);
- 170.223. Make additional efforts in the process of achieving the MDG's by 2015 (Qatar);
- 170.224. Further emphasize the quality and sustainability of the achieved targets and progress towards attaining the remaining MDG goals (Thailand);

- 170.225. Continue the efforts to ensure the sustained implementation of the MDG's (Uzbekistan);
- 170.226. Further maintain national efforts to ensure compliance and stability of the MDG's (Azerbaijan);
- 170.227. Ensure the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, with the purpose of attaining the MDG's (Kyrgyzstan);
- 170.228. Ensure the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, in the context of the attainment of the MDG's, which Cuba has mostly met (Mozambique);
- 170.229. Continue its efforts to implement the MDG's at the national level (Angola);
- 170.230. Continue its efforts to achieve the MDGs on the 2015 horizon (Democratic Republic of Congo);
- 170.231. Continue efforts to ensure enjoyment by all persons of economic, social and cultural rights with a view to achieving the MDG's (Lebanon);
- 170.232. Maintain national efforts to ensure compliance and stability of the MDG's (Myanmar);
- 170.233. Continue to implement measures to facilitate public access to adequate housing (Nepal, Sri Lanka);
- 170.234. Continue to implement measures to facilitate public access to adequate housing (Oman);
- 170.235. Continue addressing, as a priority, the enjoyment by all people of the right to food and to ensure food security (Sri Lanka); Continue its efforts towards achieving the right to food and food security (Sudan); Continue ensuring the enjoyment of the right to food and food security for all (Thailand);
- 170.236. Expand the food possibilities of the population through an agricultural system of higher productivity and production (Oman);
- 170.237. Continue to ensure food security for the elderly, persons with disabilities and persons at risk (Sri Lanka);
- 170.238. Expand the food possibilities of the population through an agricultural system of higher productivity and production (Sri Lanka);
- 170.239. Continue the implementation of the national program on access of the population to high quality medical services (Russian Federation);
- 170.240. Maintain, as a permanent priority, the quality improvement in public health of the country (Somalia);
- 170.241. Continue guaranteeing (State of Palestine)/ Continue the provision of (Myanmar)/Continue ensuring free and universal access to public health (Timor-Leste, Jordan);
- 170.242. Maintain as a permanent priority the increase of the public health quality in the country (Togo);
- 170.243. Keep raising the quality of public health in the country, as a permanent priority (Bahrain, Turkey);

- 170.244. **Maintain the quality of public health of the country as a priority (Djibouti);**
- 170.245. **Continue to improve its health system and training for health personnel (Ghana);**
- 170.246. **Step up efforts to guarantee the right of health of its citizens (Indonesia);**
- 170.247. **Continue improving the Mother and Child Care Program (Myanmar);**
- 170.248. **Continue developing the Help Line services to prevent drug use and sex education (Dominican Republic);**
- 170.249. **Keep the systematic and coordinated work with the ‘National Commission for Drug Control and Prevention’ and continue developing the ‘Help Line’ services for the prevention of drug use and sexual education with a gender perspective (El Salvador);**
- 170.250. **Strengthen the prevention of HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health and sexual diversity (Dominican Republic);**
- 170.251. **Continue to promote awareness campaigns on the question of HIV/AIDS and the rights of people who suffer from it (Mauritania);**
- 170.252. **Continue ensuring, through the Vaccination Program, the immunization coverage of the Cuban population (Tanzania);**
- 170.253. **Continue to improve progressively maternal and child health programs to ensure systematic and continuous control over their situation across the country (Algeria);**
- 170.254. **Continue attaching its priority towards care for the elderly in order to ensure the quality of life of this group of the population (Brunei Darussalam, Togo);**
- 170.255. **Implement and develop programs related to health and social welfare for the elderly, especially those aimed at further expanding the availability of medicines and to improve elderly health monitoring (Ukraine);**
- 170.256. **Continue giving special priority to the elderly care within the Cuban society to ensure the quality of life of this group of the population (Tanzania);**
- 170.257. **Consolidate programs to benefit and protect the elderly (Bolivia (Plurinational Republic of));**
- 170.258. **Adopt new measures to deal with the growing aging of the population (Djibouti);**
- 170.259. **Implement and develop social assistance programmes for the elderly (El Salvador);**
- 170.260. **Continue guaranteeing the access to cultural values in all its manifestations (Nicaragua);**
- 170.261. **Continue to protect traditional culture and artistic heritage (China);**

- 170.262. Continue efforts to defend the identity, cultural heritage preservation, promotion of creativity, artistic and literary production and art appreciation (Egypt);
- 170.263. Protect and promote cultural rights in order to ensure access for all Cubans to cultural values in all its manifestations (Kyrgyzstan);
- 170.264. Continue to ensure universal access to quality education for all and to maintain if not improve its healthcare system to the continued benefit of its people (Singapore);
- 170.265. Continue developing its policies to ensure the best quality in the sphere of education (South Africa);
- 170.266. Continue its work to achieve the highest quality at all levels of education (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 170.267. Continue prioritizing the promotion of the right to education for all (Belarus);
- 170.268. Continue promoting the respect for human rights, welfare and development of its people through education (Pakistan);
- 170.269. Pursue the policies that give priority to the promotion of the right to education for all (Burundi 1);
- 170.270. Continue the endeavours that have been made to keep all persons informed and aware of the possibility of gaining access to educational and cultural institutions (Saudi Arabia);
- 170.271. Pursue policies that give priority to the promotion of the right to education for all (Mauritania);
- 170.272. Continue its efforts in human rights education (Philippines);
- 170.273. Continue to promote and enhance human rights education in the country (Ghana);
- 170.274. Continue the effective realization of the right of education, including human rights education, in the country (Armenia);
- 170.275. Continue its efforts to create awareness among the public about the human rights instruments to which Cuba is a State party (Sri Lanka);
- 170.276. Further intensify its efforts in the training of the State's authorities and the public in general regarding international human rights standards (Malaysia 1, Turkmenistan, Pakistan);
- 170.277. Promote human rights teaching in schools (Djibouti);
- 170.278. Continue to provide social security protection to mothers of children with severe disabilities (Nigeria);
- 170.279. Further strengthening social security programs for mothers of children with severe disabilities (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 170.280. Continue to strengthen measures focused on employment for persons, particularly women, with disabilities (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 170.281. Continue its work to achieve greater access to employment for women with disabilities (Bangladesh);

170.282. **Promote the consolidation of the role of women with disabilities, without and prejudice and stereotypes (Ecuador);**

170.283. **Strengthen measures aimed at respecting the rights of people with disabilities, particularly children (Belarus);**

170.284. **Continue to implement the Brasilia rules regarding accessibility for persons with disabilities to the justice system (Brazil);**

170.285. **Effectively achieve greater access to employment to persons with disabilities, particularly women (Cyprus);**

170.286. **Keep studying the legal norms on the forms of employment of persons with disabilities and update them when necessary (Ecuador);**

170.287. **Broaden the promotion of the use of language that is more in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in particular continue advancing in the access to information through Braille, sign language, among others (Ecuador 4);**

170.288. **Consolidate specialized measures aimed at strengthening the rights of children with disabilities (Eritrea);**

170.289. **Continue to work on raising the training of human resources and teachers to facilitate access to education for pupils with special needs (Lesotho);**

170.290. **Continue to give particular priority to Special Education for children who require highly specialized care (Maldives);**

170.291. **Enhance the training of athletes with disabilities and further promote their participation in international sporting events (Lesotho);**

170.292. **Continue to encourage the training of athletes with disabilities and to further promote their participation in international sporting events (Myanmar);**

170.293. **Adopt legislative and administrative measures that would give greater coverage to the protection of the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons (Niger).**

171. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Cuba was headed by H.E. Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Rafael Pino Bécquer, Deputy Attorney General of the Republic of Cuba;
- H.E. Mr. Oscar Manuel Silvera Martínez, Vice-President of the Popular Supreme Court;
- H.E. Mrs. Rosa Fernanda Charró Ruiz, Vice Minister, Ministry of Justice;
- H.E. Mrs. Anayansi Rodríguez Camejo, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- H.E. Mrs. María del Carmen Herrera Caseiro, Ambassador of Cuba to New Zealand;
- Mrs. Ernesto Gómez. Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Pedro Luis Pedroso Cuesta, Director of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Miriam Lau, Director, Director for Foreign Affairs and Communication, Ministry of Labour and Social Security;
- Mrs. Zuleica Romay Guerra, President of the Cuban Book Institute;
- Mr. Luis Alberto Amorós Núñez, Deputy Director of Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Alejandro Castillo Santana, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- Mr. Manuel Vázquez Sejido, Juridical Advisor, National Center for Sexual Education;
- Mr. Marco Polo Vega, Official, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Rebeca Hernández Toledano, Official, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mrs. Rosa Miriam Elizarde, Official, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Frank Díaz Díaz, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- Mr. Pablo Berti Oliva, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Juan Antonio Quintanilla Román, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- Mr. Yusnier Romero Puente, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;

- Mrs. Yumirka Fernández Palacios, Third Secretary, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland;
- Mrs. Janet Román Arredondo, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland.