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Primary Contact

Home Location **S-0043-0001-061 (In Container)**Assignee **In Container 'S-0043-0001-061 (Souleymane Soukouna)' since 04/12/2006 at**

Priority

Local-container

Owner Location **Archives and Records Management Section**Record Type **Archival Item**

Date Published

Document Details

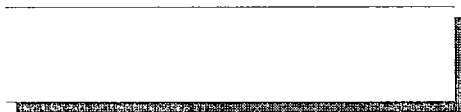
Container **S-0043-0001: DPA - General**

Notes

Record has no document attached.

Print Name of Person Submit Image

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PS (M...)

ROUTING SLIP		FICHE DE TRANSMISSION
TO: Mr. S. Iqbal Riza, Chef de Cabinet		
THROUGH: Mr. Kieran Prendergast, USG/DPA <i>K. Prendergast</i>		
FROM: John Renfingher, Director, AED/DPA		
Room No. - No. de bureau S-3380-A	Extension - Poste 3-3071	Date 04 November 2003
FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL		POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE		POUR SIGNATURE
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS
MAY WE DISCUSS?		POURRIONS-NOUS EN PARLER?
YOUR ATTENTION		VOTRE ATTENTION
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RETURN		RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

NOV - 5 2003
 23-17644
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE
 OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Cuba: Resolution on the "Necessity of ending the economic commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba"

Please find attached the summary of the debate on the above-mentioned Resolution.

G:\AMER-EUR\CUBA REPORT 2003\Summary.GA.04.11.03.doc

Prepared by: Marylene Smeets
7-5872

cc: Mr. Danilo Türk, ASG/DPA

DPA

SUMMARY FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
54th Plenary meeting
4 November 2003

**Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by
the United States of America against Cuba [29]:**
Report of the Secretary-General (A/58/287)
Draft Resolution (A/58/L.4)

Rx

1. In a record-breaking vote, 179 nations supported the resolution on the necessity of ending the embargo, which was introduced by Felipe Pérez Roque, Foreign Minister of Cuba. As last year, the US, Israel and Marshall Islands voted against the resolution. Micronesia and Morocco abstained.

2. The only representative to speak out against the draft resolution was US Ambassador Sichan Siv. While most of his presentation was given in Spanish, he closed by saying in English, "Cuba's best day is when the Cuban people have terminated Castro's evil, communist, dictatorial regime and said to him '*Hasta la vista, baby!*'".

3. Cuban Foreign Minister Pérez Roque referred to the "disrespectful and rude tone used by the US Representative", which obliged him to deviate from his prepared statement. The US attitude, he maintained, "is only the child of desperation and isolation". Never had the Foreign Minister used such sensible words as "*Hasta la vista, baby!*". Cubans would so easily understand the words "*Hasta la vista, baby!*". The only human rights violations in Cuba were those caused by the blockade and those taking place in the US occupied against Cuba's will. The Foreign Minister's presentation to be received thus with applause, the only

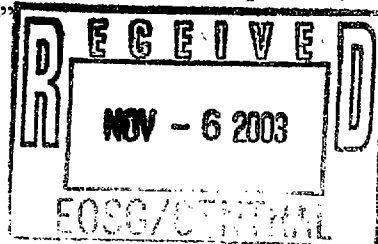
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4. Besides Cuba's Foreign Minister, several other representatives made statements supporting the draft resolution. They underscored that the embargo violated the UN Charter and other principles of international law, as well as freedom of trade and investment. They condemned the extraterritorial effects of the embargo and its weakening of multilateralism. They quoted the Millennium Declaration and Resolutions adopted by the G-15, G-77, the NAM, the Ibero-American Summit, the OAS and the Rio Group. Underlining that women, children and the elderly suffer most from the embargo, they advocated dialogue as a means to deal with differences.

5. Seven countries gave explanations after the vote. The representative of Italy, speaking in the name of the EU, stated that while the embargo was "primarily a bilateral issue", the EU opposed its extraterritorial effects. The EU strongly condemned the situation of human rights in Cuba, but "constructive engagement" remained the basis for EU policy. The EU called for the "immediate release of the prisoners of conscience" and the full cooperation with international human-rights bodies. The Representative of Norway held that a distinction needed to be made between unilateral measures and sanctions. But, he added, "The embargo cannot justify a lack of human rights". Making use of the right to reply, Foreign Minister Pérez Roque declared that no one was arrested or prosecuted for religious convictions or for expressing an opinion, only for working for a "foreign and hostile power".



AED/DPA, 4 November 2003

DPA

SUMMARY FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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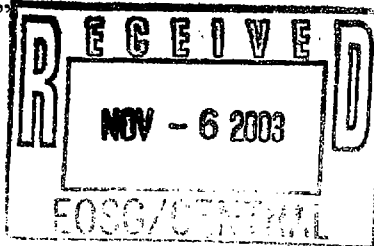
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2. The only representative to speak out against the draft resolution was US Ambassador Sichan Siv. While most of his presentation was given in Spanish, he closed by saying in English, "Cuba's best day is when the Cuban people have terminated Castro's evil, communist, dictatorial regime and said to him '*Hasta la vista, baby!*'".

3. Cuban Foreign Minister Pérez Roque referred to the "disrespectful and rude tone used by the US Representative", which obliged him to deviate from his prepared statement. The US attitude, he maintained, "is only the child of desperation and isolation". Never had the Foreign Minister heard such irresponsible words as "*Hasta la vista, baby!*". Cubans would soon say, "*Hasta la vista, bloqueo; hasta la vista genocidio*". The only human-rights violations taking place in Cuba were those caused by the blockade and those taking place in Guantánamo Bay, which the US occupied against Cuba's will. The Foreign Minister's presentation was met by applause, the only presentation to be received thus.

4. Besides Cuba's Foreign Minister, twenty Representatives made statements supporting the draft resolution. They underscored that the embargo violated the UN Charter and other principles of international law, as well as freedom of trade and investment. They condemned the extraterritorial effects of the embargo and its weakening of multilateralism. They quoted the Millennium Declaration and Resolutions adopted by the G-15, G-77, the NAM, the Ibero-American Summit, the OAS and the Rio Group. Underlining that women, children and the elderly suffer most from the embargo, they advocated dialogue as a means to deal with differences.

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