



XXVIII Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Coordination –Rio Group–

DECLARATION FROM THE RIO GROUP ON THE NEED TO END THE UNITED STATES ECONOMIC, TRADE AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO AGAINST CUBA

The Heads of State and Government of the Rio Group expressed their most vigorous rejection of the coercive and unilateral economic sanctions applied for political reasons against sovereign states, and which affect the well being of their peoples and are conceived to impede them in exercising their rights to decide, on their own terms, their own political, economic and social systems.

In this regard, we reiterate our most vigorous rejection of the legal application of laws and measures contrary to international law, such as the Helms-Burton Law and appeal to the Government of the United States of America to put an end to the application of this law.

We therefore urge the Government of the United States of America, in compliance with the successive agreements approved by the United Nations General Assembly, to put an end to the economic, trade and financial embargo against Cuba, which goes against International Law, is severely and unjustifiably damaging to the well being of the Cuban people and affects peace and co-existence among the nations of the Americas.

Montego Bay, November 5, 2009