Intervention by
H.E. Mr. Khiane Phansourivong
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Lao PDR to the United Nations
on the Agenda Item 40: “Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial
embargo impose by the United States of America against Cuba” at the Plenary Meeting of
the 69th Session of the General Assembly
New York 28 October 2014

Mr. President,

I would like to express our appreciation to the Secretary General of the United Nations for his
comprehensive report under this agenda item. My delegation wishes to align itself with the
statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representatives of the Islamic Republic of
Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Plurinational State of Bolivia on behalf of
the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. President,

Once again we are here today to express our sympathy to the innocent and peace loving people
of Cuba who have continued to endure the misery resulting from the economic, commercial and
financial embargo. Under such embargo, the Cuban Government is unable to utilize its full
capacity to eliminate poverty, promote economic and social development and attain the
Millennium Development Goals.

In addition, this embargo violates the International Law and it is against the purposes and
principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as constitutes a transgression to the right
of a sovereign State to peace, development and security.

Mr. President,

The General Assembly has called upon all States to refrain from promulgating, applying as well as
repealing and invalidating law, regulation or measure, which affect the sovereignty of the other Member
States to participate freely in international financial and commercial systems. Based on the notion of the
United Nations Charter and international law, no nation has the right to interfere in the sovereignty, international affairs, and the legitimate interests of entities of the States despite of their different socio-political system. Since Cuba is an independent state it has the right to choose its own political system as well as its path of development which best suits its specific conditions.

Mr. President,

Last year, 188 member states voted in favor of this resolution and this year, one hundred ... member states have just voted in favor of the resolution, which is an irrefutable proof that the battle for the lifting of the blockade is recognized and supported by the vast majority of the International Community. Therefore, this blockade must be lifted immediately and unconditionally. The Lao People's Democratic Republic joins the majority of the United Nations Member States in supporting the Cuban people in this fight and as members of the United Nations, we should do everything we can to help Cuba to fully reclaim its legitimate right to integrate into the globalized economy. In this spirit, my delegation has voted in favor of draft resolution A/69/L.4.

I thank you, Mr. President.