Press Release

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Statement by H.E. MR. JA SONG NAM

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the DPRK to UN

At the plenary meeting of the Sixty-Ninth session of

The United Nations General Assembly on the agenda item 40

"Necessity of Ending the Economic, Commercial and Financial
Embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba"

New York, 28 October 2014
Mr. President,

It is the consistent position of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to oppose all kinds of sanctions including economic, commercial and financial embargoes on sovereign states.

The US blockade against Cuba is the legacy of the cold war, which is intended to overthrow the legitimate social system, chosen by the Cuban people.

The unilateral and extraterritorial embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba constitutes an obvious infringement upon the sovereignty of Cuba in clear violation of the United Nations Charter and international laws, and represents the violation of human rights denying the people's right to life and right to development.

It deserves the strongest condemnation of the United Nations and international community.

The criminal blockade policy of the US against Cuba which persists for over half a century has caused serious losses amounting to more than 1 trillion 100 billion US dollars in the economic and social fields of Cuba and also impacted third countries who have normal economic and trade relations with Cuba, thus remaining the main obstacle to the socio-economic development of the country and its people's living.

As such, the inhumane and anachronistic blockade policy by the US against Cuba should be terminated, without delay, in conformity with the relevant UN resolutions and the demands of the international community.

Ending the unilateral economic, commercial and financial blockade by the US against Cuba is today's unanimous demand of Member States of the UN including Cuba which aspire to sustainable development in a peaceful environment.

Out of the consistent stand to oppose all sorts of interference and sanctions against sovereign states, the DPRK delegation, as in the past, voted in support of the
resolution on "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba" and, once again, strongly urges the US to immediately abandon its blockade against Cuba.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea fully supports the efforts of the Government and people of Cuba to end the US embargo and will continue to further expand and develop the economic and trade relations with Cuba in the future.

In conclusion, we reiterate our strongest support to and solidarity with the struggles of the Cuban government and people to safeguard the national dignity and sovereignty against the US attempts for unilateral blockade.

Thank you, Mr. President.