Mr. President,

I am taking the floor to explain my delegation's position on the resolution A/69/ L.4, which was just adopted by an overwhelming majority of Member States. My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished representatives of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Since the resolution was first introduced, at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly in 1992, my delegation has taken a principled position of joining the international community every year in calling for an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba which cause huge material losses and economic damage to the Cuban people.

As a country having experienced similar unilateral sanctions for decades, Myanmar fully understands from its own experience the degree of the suffering caused by the sanctions which directly affect the innocent people of the country.

Mr. President,

As a member of Non-Aligned Movement, Myanmar has steadfastly adhered to the principled position of the Movement in opposing the use of unilateral trade and economic sanctions. Therefore, Myanmar strongly supports the final document adopted at the XVII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Algeria earlier this year which calls for an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba. The embargo is
also contrary to the United Nations Charter as well as international law and the principle of good neighbourliness.

Mr. President,

In line with previous United Nations resolutions on this item, we firmly believe that constructive dialogue is necessary to promote confidence and understanding. We also believe that the embargo and coercive measures should be replaced by dialogue and cooperation. For those reasons, Myanmar has once again voted in favour of the resolution on the matter.

I thank you.