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| **REPUBLIC OF CUBA**  **Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office at Geneva and International Organizations in Switzerland** |

**Intervention of the Cuban** **delegation in general debate of the 24th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development.**   **Geneva, 15 May 20 23.**

Mr. president/rapporteur:

The current international situation is characterized by the confluence of serious systemic crises and the ineffectiveness of an unjust and obsolete international order, which perpetuates inequality and constitutes a serious obstacle to therealization of the right to development.

As if their own challenges were not sufficiently complex and challenging, many developing countries suffer from the arbitrary and selective imposition of unilateral coercive measures, which adversely affect their economic and social development.

The same industrialized countries that impose these illegal measures are the ones that fail to meet their commitments of Official Development Aid, technology transfer, capacity building, external financing on advantageous terms and contribution of 0.7% of their Gross National Product to support the efforts of the countries of the South.

Mr. Chair/Rapporteur,

35 years after theadoption of the Declaration on Development, the realizationof this right is an increasingly urgent and necessary chimera.

Progress towards a binding international instrument in this area, as promoted by the Non-Aligned Movement, must be approached with political will and a truespirit of cooperation and dialogue.

If only a tiny percent of the trillion-dollar expenditures that some great powers devote to military spending and the development of a ruthless arms race were dedicated to the realization of this right, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development would be an achievable goal for the countries of the South.

Mr. Chair/Rapporteur,

Cuba opposed any attempt to reinterpret the right to development. We must work togetherto operationalize it in the policies and activities of international organizations and institutions.

Cuba reaffirms that the right to development is a universal and inalienable right of both individuals and our peoples. To work in its full realization is to bet on the future, on sustainable development and on the survival of the human species.

Thanks a lot