Comandante Fidel Castro Ruz

By Cde. Fidel Castro Ruz

After Bruno concluded his intervention around noon on October 26, the session, as usual, allowed some time for delegations to make an explanation of vote, before the draft Resolution was finally voted.

The first speaker was the US Ambassador Ronald D. Godard, Senior Area Advisor for Western Hemisphere Affairs, who was heading his country’s delegation. His unusual speech spoke of an analysis that would show that the denunciations made by the minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba were strictly fair. His own assertions were sufficient to reveal the cynical essence of that country’s policy.

“The United States is firmly committed to supporting the desire of the Cuban people to freely determine their country’s future.”

“The United States of America has the sovereign right to conduct its own relationship with another country. The U.S. economic relationship with Cuba is a bilateral issue meant to encourage a more open environment in Cuba and incentives for human rights and fundamental freedoms.”

“We should not lose sight of that in a debate marked by rhetoric and deafening noise, the real issue and focused on tactical differences—a debate that does nothing to help the Cuban people.”

“My delegation regrets that the US government continues, year after year, to inappropriately and incorrectly label U.S. trade restrictions on Cuba as an act of genocide the United States uses to muster the support of human rights and fundamental freedoms.”

“I have to say the following: Mr. President;”

“Soon after that, the head of the Nicaraguan delegation, whose people deeply suffered the dirty war imposed by Ronald Reagan which took a toll on so many human lives, made her explanation of vote. She made a forceful speech.

“The draft resolution was put to the vote and 187 countries voted in favor; two countries—both states and Israel—made her explanation of vote. She made a forceful speech.

“The essence of what he said is that the United States and the European Union, governments who authorized the creation of secret prisons in Europe and the secret renditions by the CIA denounced? Could the European Union representative shed more light on that issue?

“We could speak about Wikileaks. Why don’t you tell us that the blockade of the countries described in the more than 75,000 documents about the crimes in Afghanistan and in the 400,000 documents about Iraq?

“The changes in Cuba are only incumbent to Cubans. We will change everything that needs to be changed, for the better, but we do not ask the US government’s opinion. We freely chose our destiny. That is why we made the Revolution. Those changes will be made in a sovereign fashion and in accordance with the laws.”

“We need a truly democratic United Nations, not an imperial domain where the overwhelming majority of peoples does not count. The United Nations, founded before the Cold War, is an anachronism. It was established during the Cold War. The planet, the ever increasing lack of natural resources imposed on the world, the systematic plundering of their natural resources imposed on more than 75 countries and the increasing risk of a suicidal war for all peoples of the world.

What rights do we have if we cannot even call for an end to the blockade? What would be the use of that body, which was founded at a time when there were not even independent countries represented here? It is not a bilateral issue. Mr. President;”

“I have very little to add to what our esteemed representative of the European Union here said:”

“The EU would rather take care of its brutal anti-immigrant policy, the deportation of ethnic minority citizens, the violent repression against demonstrators and the increasing social exclusion of its unemployed and low-income sectors. The EU is also deeply implicated in a shameless and infamous way, devises itself to reward the US government paid stooges in Cuba.”

“They are aware of the fact that the EU has not been able to defeat the Cuban Revolution—nor will it be. I did not focus on the exercise of counting the number of votes for or against the “Resolution”.

Instead I observed the warmth and the convictions of those who spoke against that unjust and arbitrary policy. It would be wrong to believe that this measure could stay in place forever. That was an uprising. Peoples are sick and tired of suffering, abuses and deceptions.”

“Please tell us what you expect from these resolutions and from regimes that practice interventions?”

“President Obama has stated that the US government will not be able to defeat the Cuban Revolution—nor will it be. I did not focus on the exercise of counting the number of votes for or against the “Resolution”.

Instead I observed the warmth and the convictions of those who spoke against that unjust and arbitrary policy. It would be wrong to believe that this measure could stay in place forever. That was an uprising. Peoples are sick and tired of suffering, abuses and deceptions.”

“Please tell us what you expect from these resolutions and from regimes that practice interventions?”