To: Universal Periodic Review, Human Right Council in United Nation,
Communication to UPR, Cuba, October 2012

Country: Cuba

From: Indonesia Cuba Friendship Association (Perhimpunan Persahabatan Indonesia - Cuba)

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Jakarta, 4 October 2012

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Excellencies,

1. The Friendship Association Indonesia – Cuba was founded in 2005. It was in recognition to a friendly country which has been friendly with all over the world, including Indonesia. Knowing also the success of this progressive country and the way to support and enhance the bilateral relations and the knowledge of its history and contribution not only to the third world countries but to all the international community in socio cultural, education, sport, health, science, national integration and economic, we have been very proud to support them.

2. Cuba was presented to the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights Council (HRC) 2009 with positive results. Even at this scenario, the HRC recognized Cuba’s advances in the field of human rights. Numerous international organizations, including UNESCO, have also recognized the Cuban advances to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights of the Cuban people.

3. Discrimination for religious reasons does not exist. There are around 400 religions and religious institutions based on the credo of their membership; they carry out their activities with no interference whatsoever by the State. All religions have their churches and places of worship for their activities which regularly take place without any impediments.

4. Cuba continues to ensure universal access, free of charge, to public health. In 2011 the infant mortality rate reached 4.9, the lowest rate in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2011, the maternal mortality rate was at 40.6 per 100,000, a very low rate on an international scale. There are many examples of the unselfish attitude of Cuba regarding Indonesia, among them the presence of the Cuban Medical relieve team who assisted the people of Indonesia after the Great Tsunami in Aceh in 2004 and also the earthquake in 2006 in Yogyakarta. Also many Cuban collaborator has come to
Indonesia to bring their knowledge and love, as well as to share important experiences in health, sport, science, culture and education. Indonesia also has privilege to get scholarship for studying medicine in Cuba.

5. The main obstacle and problems preventing the promotion and protection of human rights in Cuba are the ongoing policy of hostility, economic blockade by US administrations.

We hope you can take this arguments in favor of Cuba.

On behalf of the Indonesia Cuba Friendship Association
(Perhimpunan Persahabatan Indonesia - Cuba)

Prof. Samsuridjal Djauzi,
Chairman