NYO-JOINT UPR SUBMISSION-CUBA- APRIL/MAY 2013

NYO ACTIVITIES

“The Nigeria Youth Organization NYO is a Non-governmental, non profit making National Youth Development, Empowerment, Sensitization and mobilization organization with chapters and branches in all the states of Nigeria. The Organization National President participated in the ECOSOC Peace and Security Cluster activities of the African Union between 2009 and 2010 in affiliation with the Afro-Arabs Youth Councils. “the organization was established in 1980. The organization currently holds the Presidency of the Sahel-Saharan Youth and Students Union (CENSAD) Africa.

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National President for the joint presentation
TALKING POINTS ON CUBA’S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW SECOND CIRCLE

1. Legal and Institutional Framework for the Promotion of Human Rights.
   a. The Cuban Nation has constitutions which recognizes basic and fundamental Human Rights, which includes, the right to life, the right to work, the right to Legal Defense and personal Attorney, the right to prosecution and compliance to verdict and judgment of the Court of competent jurisdiction Supreme Court as well as strict observance of legalities.
   b. The Cuban Nation operates a clearly defined legal and institutional framework that observes and complies majorly with universal set standards of civility, norms and best practices for the promotion of human rights.
   c. The Cuban Nation continue to recognize through their legal and established constitutional order, the rights of Cuban to quality life, personal integrity, promotion of human dignity and self esteem of the Cubans through qualitative and compulsory free and qualitative education to all levels without discrimination of gender or social status or parental background and means.
   d. The Cuba’s Socialist Economic order has been undergoing some surgical modernization, rectification and upgrading tailored towards greater satisfaction of the needs of the Cuban people. In 2011, the Cuban National Council adopted the Economic and social Policy Guideline
   e. In pursuance of Human rights and freedom, the Cuban nation is a zealous partner and signatory to numerous international instruments
and conventions that deals with the question of rights and freedom, these includes the


g. The Cuban nation adopted recently the right to own landed property, transfer of land to peasant, social security and gainful employment.


a. Cuba always cooperates with the United Nation Human Rights procedures and mechanism that are non-discriminatory and have universal application. Cuba has always shown strong commitment to dialogue as means to resolve issues among states based on mutual respect, equality of sovereignty and recognition of people’s right to self determination economically, socially and politically.

b. Cuba submitted 3 reports to human rights treaty bodies: the second periodic report to the committee on the rights of the child 2011, the report on Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2011 and reports to the Committee against Torture 2012.

A combine reports on Elimination All Forms of Discrimination Against Woman. Also the reports on the rights of persons with disabilities and child soldiering.
3. **Equality and Non-Discrimination**
   a. Cuba has taking many steps and measure to ensure better condition of living and greater happiness to her citizens based on commitment to human rights and freedom since the last four years.
   b. The Cuban constitution has adequate protection and institutional provision that guaranteed the rights of the elderly, the youth, disabled, prison inmates etc. it has also adopted measure to fight all forms of discrimination based on sex, gender and other prejudices.

4. **The Rights to Life and Personal Liberty**
   The Cuba government has in the last four years worked tirelessly to get rid of death sentences. Consequently, no death sentence has been passed in Cuba for the past four years and in the month of April 2009, decided to and indeed commute all death sentences to between 30 years to life imprisonment depending on the gravity of offence: Today in Cuba no more death penalty.

5. **The Administration of Justice, the Fight Against Impurity and the Rule of Law**
   a. The Cuban Judicial System recognizes and guaranteed the independence of the judges as individual and the segmented court system at all stages and level to court jurisdiction up to the Supreme Court.
   b. There is equality to all persons before the law and the judges are elected in popular manner based on records of integrity, all trials are made public except in exceptional cases. Offenders are presumed innocent until conviction and all accused persons have right to legal defence.
c. All cases can be appealed within the stipulated time.

6. **The Freedom of Religion and Beliefs of Expressions, Association and Peaceful Assembly.**

   a. There are over 400 religion and cultural beliefs in Cuba, all practicing their beliefs without inhibition or interference. The recent visit of the Pope Benedict to Cuba and his expression of satisfaction with the level of freedom of religion and the achievement of the Cuban revolution in the face of Economic blockade and aggression of the United States of America is an attestation to these facts.

   b. The Cuban people enjoy unlimited rights to peaceful Assembly, Association and freely participate in public and political activities. No one in Cuba has been persecuted for expressing opinion, association and peaceful protest within guaranteed constitutional liberty.

   c. Irrespective of the specials peculiarities of the Cuban nation and government, resulting from the aggression of the united states and her paid agent of destabilization that United States, which consistently put the government of Cuba at a state of alert to consistently protect and preserve their national sovereignty and defense of their liberty and freedom and rights of the Cubans

7. **The Right to Work and fair Satisfaction working conditions and the Right to Social Security and Adequate Standard of Living.**

   a. Cuba has ratified 88 international labour organization conventions workers rights, unions activities are included in the legal, constitutional and institutional framework of the Cuban nation, including
complementary legislation provision to ensure that the workers right remains guaranteed.

b. Social security is adequately available in Cuba.

8. The Right to Health, Education, Food and Culture

a. The true face of the Cuba government is that of absolute humanism.

*Health*: the Cuba takes the issue of health very serious. The maxim health is wealth find true expression in the Cuban government policies on health. Life expectancy for the woman is at 80 years and 79 years for the men. The Cuban government surpassed the world health organization requirements of health in ratio of medical personal and doctors per people they have also been the great help to WHO in reaching out to the world particularly African countries Latin America etc spreading their medical facilities, personnel and Doctors in unconditional assistance. They exercise positively, the right to health not only to their own citizens but to many other countries. In 2011 infant mortality stood at 4.9, the lowest in Latin America. At the same period the maternal mortality rate is at 40.6 per 100,000 very low rates internationally speaking.

*Education*: UNESCO ranked Cuba number 14 in Education for all ratings. Cuba, Education is compulsorily accessible and free of charge. Cuba beyond her own shore continues to educate numerous peoples through scholarship all over Africa and in Latin America while working for greater height at home.
Food -Irrespective of the USA unwarranted Economic blockade, the Cuba government has worked hard to ensure food security for the Cubans and era and era striving hard to achieve more

Culture: to the Cuban, a people without culture are people without parents or mother. Cuban government and people place high premium on the subject of culture and their celebrate and give expression to their cultural diversities.

   • Overwhelming statistics shows Cuba as a country in the fore-front of international cooperation in the areas of health and disaster management. They have on-going operation miracle which restores sight to thousands of blind people across the internationally community. Cuba is developing comprehensive health programme assistance over 40 countries.
   • Cuba was greatly present in Haiti during the devastating earthquake and continues to assist Latin America countries in the management of disasters.
   • Various program of educational development are on-going in various countries through Cuban assistance and designated methodology for illiteracy campaign particularly in Latin America and massive scholarship to Africa countries.
10. The Obstacle and Problems Preventing the Promotion and Protection of human rights in Cuba.

a. The United States Unilaterally imposed economic blockage is the major obstacle to Cuban capacity to do better in the areas of human rights protection and promotion. More so that USA continue to harbour and protect sponsor terrorist group against Cuba from Miami Florida. USA

• Year in year out beyond the economic blockade the USA voted large sums of monies for covert operations to destabilize the Cuban nation and government.

• Between 2010 and 2011 the Obama administration earmarked over 40 million US dollars through USAID for subversive mission against Cuba apart from multi million dollars covert spending on same course.

**KEY MESSAGES ABOUT CUBA’S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW SECOND CIRCLE**

- There is absolute necessity to do more than resolutions to compel USA to lift her unjust economic blockade against Cuba to enable Cuba to record greater happiness and promotion of human rights to her people and effectively do more to assist our world.

- That if Cuba under the total blockade by USA could record the high level of basic rights, educationally, shelter, health and international cooperation and protection of her sovereignty, Cuba will do much more to help humanity if the blockade is ended.

- From all indications, Cuba has fulfilled all recommendations from the first UPR in 2009.

- Cuba is a listening country that believes in dialogue and constructive engagement in the resolutions of conflicts.

- The world must do more to access genuine information’s and truth about the glowing human rights record and wonderful achievement of Cuba in
the face of daunting challenges and dismiss the USA led malicious propaganda and falsehood being broadcasted to the world from the arsenal of their massive imperialist medium.

- Cuba is working harder to open up its society for greater benefit of all, in Cuba, women, men, young and old, disabled and strong, ministry and civilian government and all people work along with great commitment to the protection of their right to self determination and freedom