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**Promotion and protection of all human rights,
civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Note verbale dated 25 April 2011 addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights by the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations based in Switzerland presents its compliments to Ms. Navanethem Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has the honour to transmit herewith, in English and Spanish, a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba dated 9 April 2011, on the acquittal of the international terrorist Luis Posada Carriles on all charges in a migration-related trial held in El Paso, Texas, United States of America.*

The Permanent Mission of Cuba hereby requests that the above-mentioned text be circulated as an official document of the Human Rights Council at its seventeenth session, under agenda item 3.

The Permanent Mission of Cuba takes this opportunity to convey to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

* Reproduced as received in the annex, in the original languages only.

Annex

Declaración del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la República de Cuba

En la tarde del 8 de abril de 2011 culminó la farsa que se iniciara ya hace 13 semanas en El Paso, Texas, con la absolución del terrorista Luis Posada Carriles de todos los cargos que se le imputaron en el juicio migratorio en su contra.

Para todos aquellos que han seguido la tenebrosa trayectoria del terrorista y sus vínculos con sucesivos gobiernos norteamericanos, el FBI y la CIA, en su guerra sucia contra Cuba, se trata de una demostración adicional del apoyo y amparo que históricamente le han brindado las autoridades norteamericanas.

Desde que Posada Carriles desembarcó en La Florida adonde viajó desde Islas Mujeres, en México, a bordo de la embarcación “Santrina”, como oportunamente denunció el Comandante en Jefe Fidel Castro, ha seguido estando, como lo estuvo siempre, bajo la tutela y protección del gobierno de los Estados Unidos.

Su juicio por haber mentido en un proceso migratorio y no por terrorista, es un insulto al pueblo de Cuba y a las familias enlutadas por las acciones de Posada.

La desvergüenza ocurrida en El Paso es totalmente contradictoria con la política antiterrorista que dice profesar el gobierno de los Estados Unidos y que ha provocado, incluso, intervenciones militares en otras naciones y costado miles de vidas.

El gobierno de los Estados Unidos conoce bien la participación de Posada Carriles en la voladura de la aeronave de Cubana de Aviación sobre Barbados en 1976, la campaña de bombas contra instalaciones turísticas cubanas en 1997, y sus planes para atentar contra la vida de nuestro Comandante en Jefe, en Panamá, en el año 2000, por lo que fue, incluso, condenado en dicho país.

El gobierno de Washington tiene en sus manos todas las pruebas de los crímenes de Posada, muchas de las cuales fueron presentadas en el juicio de El Paso.

Habrá que ver si es capaz ahora de entablar un nuevo proceso contra Posada Carriles por terrorismo, o de proceder a su extradición a Venezuela, como le fuera solicitado hace ya más de cinco años por ese país, y a lo que está obligado jurídicamente por los convenios internacionales de que es parte y por la resolución 1373 (2001) del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas, que propio Gobierno de Estados Unidos promovió.

Lo más paradójico es que, mientras se exonerá a Posada Carriles, cinco luchadores antiterroristas cubanos permanecen injustamente en cárceles norteamericanas por buscar información sobre las acciones de los terroristas de origen cubano que, como Posada Carriles, se pasean libre e impunemente por las calles de Miami.

Cuba reitera que el gobierno de los Estados Unidos es el responsable principal de este desenlace y lo emplaza a que asuma sus obligaciones en la lucha contra el terrorismo, sin hipocresías ni dobles raseros.

La Habana, 9 de abril de 2011

Statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba

In the afternoon of April 8, 2011, the farce that had begun thirteen weeks ago in El Paso, Texas, came to an end when terrorist Luis Posada Carriles was acquitted of all the charges pressed against him during a migration trial.

To all those who have been following the sinister history behind this terrorist and his links with the successive US governments, the FBI and the CIA in his dirty war against Cuba, this is an additional proof of the support and protection that the US authorities have traditionally granted to him.

Since the moment of his landing in Florida after traveling from Isla Mujeres in Mexico on board of the “Santrina” boat, as was timely denounced by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Posada Carriles has been, as he always was, under the tutelage and protection of the US government.

He was tried for committing perjury during a migration process, not for being a terrorist, and this is an outrage against the people of Cuba and the families that were plunged into mourning by the actions committed by Posada.

The shameless verdict at El Paso is in full contradiction with the anti-terrorist policy that the US government is said to profess, which has even led to military interventions against other nations, taking a toll of thousands of human lives.

The US government is absolutely aware of Posada Carriles’ involvement in the blowing-up in mid-air of a Cubana de Aviación airliner off Barbados in 1976, the bombing spree against Cuban tourist facilities in 1997 and his plans to attempt against the life of our Commander in Chief in Panama in 2000, for which he was even convicted in that country.

The US government has all the evidence of the crimes committed by Posada, many of which were presented in court at El Paso.

We are still to see if the US government is capable of either filing a new claim against Posada Carriles on a charge of terrorism or accepting his extradition to Venezuela, as was requested more than five years ago by that country, taking into account its legal obligation derived from the international covenants it is party to and the UN Security Council Resolution 1373 of 2001, which was promoted by the US government itself.

As paradoxical as it may seem, while Posada Carriles is being acquitted, five Cuban anti-terrorists remain unjustly imprisoned in the United States for collecting information about the actions perpetrated by terrorist of Cuban origin who, like Posada Carriles, are walking free and with impunity down the streets of Miami.

Cuba reaffirms that the US government is the chief responsible for this outcome and challenges it to take on its obligations in the struggle against terrorism, without hypocrisy or double standards.

Havana, April 9, 2011