

UNGA77 3C – General Discussion on Agenda Items 66, 67

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; Right of peoples to self-determination

Transcript – Cuba (On Behalf of a Group of 66 Countries)

31 October 2022

I have the honor to deliver a joint statement on behalf of the following 66 countries: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, China, Comoros, the Congo, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, Papua New Guinea, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Yemen, Zimbabwe, and my own country Cuba.

Respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of states and non-interference in internal affairs of sovereign states represent basic norms governing international relations. Xinjiang, Hong Kong and Tibet related issues are China's internal affairs. We oppose politicization of human rights and double standards or interference in China's internal affairs under the pretext of human rights. We maintain that all parties should abide by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, adhere to the principles of universality, impartiality, objectivity, and non-selectivity, and respect the right of the people of each state to choose independently, the path for development in accordance with their national conditions. All human rights should be treated with the same emphasis with sufficient importance attached to economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to development in particular. Today, human rights are faced with multiple challenges including the COVID 19 pandemic. The international community should uphold multilateralism, strengthen solidarity and coordination, and respond jointly to global challenges, advance world peace and development, and promote and protect human rights.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.