

PERMANENT MISSION OF BARBADOS

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**Statement delivered by Barbados on the occasion of the third cycle of their Universal Periodic Review of Cuba**

**16 May, 2018**

Barbados is honoured to be able to extend a particularly very warm welcome to the delegation of Cuba, led by their Head of Delegation, the Honourable Mr Bruno Rodriguez, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to this the country’s third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

Mister President.

Barbados commends Cuba on its commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights. Cuba’s commitment is evident not only by the impressive number of international human rights instruments the country has ratified, but through its substantive legislative and institutional reforms aimed at bringing its national human rights situation in line with its international commitments and its modernised economic and social development model.

We note the progress that Cuba has made in advancing labour, education and cooperation not only at the national level, but beyond its borders in terms of health and medical services. We however recognise that like other countries with limited resources and significant challenges there is room for improvement. We therefore urge on Cuba to continue its work towards the full implementation of its international commitments and the promotion and protection of human rights of its people. We also implore the international community to continue its support to the Government of Cuba in this regard.

Barbados recommends that Cuba continues on the very encouraging trajectory of progress made with respect to its commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights.

Mister President.

Barbados takes this opportunity to wish Cuba a successful conclusion to its Universal Periodic Review.

Thank you Mister President.

PERMANENT MISSION OF BARBADOS TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS