

## RESOLUTION ON CALLING FOR AN END TO THE U.S. EMBARGO OF CUBA

WHEREAS, for over ten years the National Lawyers Guild Labor & Employment Committee and the Canadian Association of Labor Lawyers have collaborated on various projects, including work on labor rights in Cuba; and

WHEREAS, our organizations stand in solidarity with the Cuban trade union movement and with the Cuban people in their struggle to preserve and advance their labor, human, and democratic rights; and

WHEREAS, as members of our respective organizations we recognize that the policy of the United States and other nations toward Cuba only makes sense if it recognizes Cuba's sovereignty and independence, respects Cuba's trade union movement and its work to empower Cuban workers, contributes to genuine improvement of labor and human rights, and truly serves the humanitarian and democratic interests of Cuban workers and of the Cuban people; and

WHEREAS, there is a broad consensus among the global and Cuban trade union movements that the U.S. economic embargo has failed in its stated policy goals of promoting democracy by ending socialism in Cuba, while adversely affecting ordinary Cuban citizens; and

WHEREAS, the current aspects of the U.S. embargo on Cuba that restrict individual and group travel of American citizens, including U.S. trade unionists, are counterproductive to advancing worker and human rights on the island; and

WHEREAS the current aspects of the U.S. embargo that punish the Cuban people economically by making it more difficult for Cubans to obtain the products and services they need for survival, including life-saving medicines;

WHEREAS, we are encouraged by the recent pronouncements of President Obama and President Raul Castro in regard to diplomatic relations and trade between the United States and Cuba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we urge the U.S. Congress to repeal the Helms-Burton and Torricelli Acts; and

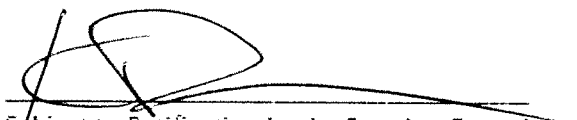
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the U.S. government to end individual and group travel restrictions to Cuba involving U.S. citizens and take all other measures within the authority of the Executive Branch to end the embargo and normalize relations between our countries, including but not limited to removing Cuba from the list of State Sponsors of Terrorism; and

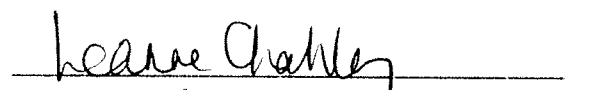
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will, to the extent we are members of trade unions in our respective countries and represent unions in our legal work, when appropriate, make every effort to work with the International Trade Union Confederation, the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas, the World Federation of Labor and the global labor movement, in solidarity with the Cuban labor movement, to further the cause of worker and human rights in Cuba.

MADE THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2015, IN HAVANA CUBA.

NLG LABOR & EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF LABOUR LAWYERS

  
Subject to Ratification by the Steering Committee  
of the NLG L&E Committee

  
Subject to Ratification by Executive Council of CALL