

# *Cuba Ratifies Willingness to Improve Relations with Washington*

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United Nations, October 28 (RHC)-- Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez reiterated his country's willingness to advance towards the improvement of bilateral relations with the United States, a process negatively affected by the U.S. economic, commercial and financial blockade of the Caribbean nation.

In statements to Prensa Latina news agency during a meeting with reporters who covered Tuesday's vote on the Cuban resolution against the U.S. policy, Bruno Rodriguez recalled that President Raul Castro has underlined since December 17th and at different forums that Cuba is willing to do everything in its reach to improve bilateral links with the United States and back the change of policy announced by President Barack Obama.

According to the foreign minister, the over-50-year U.S. siege of Cuba is an obstacle to the process aimed at improving bilateral relations and he added that the lifting of the blockade would be a favorable aspect not only for the two nations, but also for the region and the world.

Rodriguez also stressed Cuba's willingness to boost bilateral dialog and cooperation in the benefit of the two countries. "We have received high-level U.S. delegations and will continue to do so; we also have

contacts with sectors of the U.S. society, which we are ready to favor," said the minister.

During the meeting with the reporters, the Cuban diplomat expressed his appreciation for international solidarity, which was proven with the stunning support of the Cuban resolution that demands the end of the U.S. blockade -- after 191 out of all 193 UN member nation voted in favor of Cuba.

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