

ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES

SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Port-of-Spain, February 10, 2012

Agreement No. 9/12

DECLARATION ON THE NEED TO PUT AN END TO THE ECONOMIC, TRADE AND FINANCIAL BLOCKADE OF THE UNITED STATES AGAINST CUBA

The Ministerial Council,

Considering Article III of the Convention establishing the ACS and pursuant to Paragraph 9 of the Declaration of Principles on Tourism, Trade and Transport adopted at the First Summit of Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago in August 1995;

Recalling Agreement No. 14/1996 of the Ministerial Council of the Association of the Caribbean States, which categorically rejects the passing of the Helms-Burton Act by the United States of America, which violates principles and standards of international law and of the United Nations Charter, is contrary to the spirit of the World Trade Organization and to the co-operation and friendship that should characterise relations among the members of the international community;

Considering the Special Communiqué of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) on the necessity to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade of the United States against Cuba, adopted on December 3, 2011 at the 3rd Latin American and Caribbean Summit of Integration and Development;

Expresses its strongest condemnation of the measures which are contrary to international law, as the Helms-Burton Act, including its extraterritorial effect and urges the Government of the United States of America to put an end to its implementation;

Calls on the Government of the United States of America to comply with the successive resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations and in response to the repeated calls from Latin America and the Caribbean States, to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial blockade maintained against Cuba;

REQUESTS:

That the Secretary General appraise the relevant international and regional fora of this Agreement.