

## Final Statement

### Second Forum of the Cuban Civil Society for the Liberation of the Five Cubans unjustly being held in US prisons

We, representatives of 95 Cuban civil society organizations and of regional and international organizations headquartered in Cuba, meeting within the framework of the International Solidarity Day for the liberation of the Cuban Five, prisoners in American jails for having defended our people from terrorist actions forged inside the very same United States, agree to present the following:

1. For the last 13 years, the Cubans Fernando González, Antonio Guerrero, René González, Ramón Labañino and Gerardo Hernández, have been unjustly imprisoned in the United States, after a judicial process in which multiple violations were committed on their legal and human rights.
2. The **UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention** described the detention of these counter-terrorist activists as arbitrary; likewise, Amnesty International has expressed to the US authorities the constant violations, in this case, on the principles gathered in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and in the international instruments that govern Humanitarian Law, without receiving consequent attention or observing any change whatsoever in the position of the United States government.
3. Recently, information and articles have been published revealing the participation of journalists who were paid by that government to contribute to the creation of a hostile climate during the trial. The empire, with the obvious complicity of the large communications media, has covered up the truth about our Five Heroes for the American and world public opinion with impunity, while in Miami, a rampant and extravagant cover-up by the local media paid off by the

government promoted a climate of hatred against the accused men and of threats on the jury members and lawyers and witnesses.

4. The applications of psychological torture and cruel punishment have not been limited to the Five Heroes. Their families, especially the wives of two of them, have been punished, constituting flagrant violations of the **UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment** and the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women** enacted by the United Nations, preventing them from making the family visits to which they have the right.
5. Fernando González, Antonio Guerrero, René González, Ramón Labañino and Gerardo Hernández acted to protect our people from terrorist actions that have caused the death of innocent persons while the perpetrators, self-confessed international terrorists such as Luis Posada Carriles and others, freely walk the streets of Miami with official tolerance and they receive tributes as if they were heroes. Both the Court of Appeals and the Court of Miami in which they were tried, have acknowledged that they represent NO danger to the national security of the United States.
6. The new sentences passed on Fernando González, Ramón Labañino and Antonio Guerrero remain unjust. In the case of Gerardo Hernández, who is illegally weighed down by two life sentences and 15 years, we await the decision on "Habeas Corpus" which was presented in June before the Federal Court of the District of Miami, constituting the last legal procedure that would allow for a new trial to be held; the bases and arguments that back up this just demand are irrefutable and for this reason we, the representatives of the Cuban civil society, coming together here, insist before the authorities involved that this legal procedure be favourably answered. In the case of René, a "motion" was presented to modify the

"guarded liberty" measure that establishes his permanence on US territory for the next 3 years, because of the dangers this judicial decision holds for him. René ought to receive all guarantees for his immediate return to his homeland.

7. Achieving the freedom of our five compatriots is not just a claim by our people but also by governments, parliaments, personalities in the realm of culture, science, Nobel laureates, people from social, political and professional associations, jurists and international civil society institutions.
8. We, the Cuban civil society organizations present here at this Forum, raise our voices to demand justice for the freedom of the Five Cuban anti-terrorist Heroes and we call on all men and women of good faith, lovers of just causes, that they unite to our claim in order to attain their immediate release from prison.
9. The injustice and cruelty that for 13 years our Five Heroes have been subjected to could end with a presidential decision by Mr. Barack Obama, president of the United States, a man possessing the prerogatives and powers authorized by the Constitution of that country to decree their immediate freedom.
10. Fernando González, Antonio Guerrero, René González, Ramón Labañino and Gerardo Hernández embody the highest feelings of justice, freedom and solidarity and we ratify yet again that we shall continue alongside our entire people in this fight to have the truth be known, condemning the injustice and cruelty of which they and their beloved families have been victims.

*Havana, September 16, 2011.*

They shall return!

*(signed) Representatives of the Civil Society of Cuba organizations,  
participants at the Second Forum of the Cuban civil society for the  
liberation of the Five Cubans unjustly held in US prisons.*