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Nigeria

Special rapporteur on Cuba

Hr. President,

I have just returned from Cuba where I attended the GIS and the Non-Aligned Summit and had the opportunity to speak to people in the street, taxi-drivers and other ordinary people. They were all proud of their leadership.

In terms of human rights, the most important right is the right to life in good health. The achievements of Cuba in this field are incomparable as their life expectancy is one of the highest in the world.

Cuba is also helping African countries improve the health of African countries.

We hope we now have adopted ~~a mechanism~~ through ~~UPR a mechanism~~ the principle of performance evaluation through UPR. This should be a 180° evaluation exercise which should apply equally to States, Special Rapporteurs, Staff and other partners. This is a democratic exercise which should not be seen as an attack when directed at Special Rapporteurs and only as constructive criticism when addressed to States.

Cuba is proceeding in the enhancement of the economic and social rights of its people. The rest will follow.