**Solidarity with Cuba: time to end the US blockade**
[This union/organisation] welcomes the improved relations between Cuba and the US since December 2014 when the two countries agreed to re-establish diplomatic relations and the final members of the Miami Five were released from US jails.

While [union/organisation] applauds the opening of embassies in Washington and Havana, and the recent visit by President Obama to the island, we note that this does not equate to an end to the illegal blockade of Cuba, nor US intervention in Cuban affairs.

The US government remains committed to pursuing their objectives of regime change and interference in Cuba’s right to chose it’s own economic, social and political path, as evidenced by the millions of US dollars it has given to organisations both inside and outside Cuba working to advance US political interests on the island since December 2014, and a further $30 million dollars for such purposes is due for approval by Congress this year.

There are still many within the USA opposed to normalising relations and ending the blockade. Some Republican presidential candidates are committed to reversing Obama’s limited measures should they win the presidential elections in November. The US Office for Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is still empowered to fine third country companies that trade with Cuba. And the pillars of the blockade – the Helms-Burton Law and the Torricelli Act can only be repealed by Congress, where Obama has no majority.

The recent fines of international banks and the closing of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign’s account by the Co-operative Bank are also evidence that the extraterritorial elements of the blockade are still firmly in place.

[This union/organisation] acknowledges the work of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign in the fight to free the Miami Five, to end the US blockade of Cuba and the occupation of Guantánamo Bay and is proud to be part of these campaigns. We express support for the right of Cuba to choose their own economic, social and political path and oppose the USA’s illegal economic blockade and policies to isolate and interfere in the internal affairs of island.

We also note that the illegal occupation of Guantánamo Bay by a US naval base must end, and that normal relations between the two countries are dependent on this, an end to the blockade and an end to ongoing US interference in Cuba’s sovereign affairs.

We therefore commit to redouble our efforts to:

1.Call on the US government to completely end the blockade of Cuba and cease its occupation of Guantánamo Bay.
2.Support the Miami Five Freedom Tour, the visit of the Miami Five and their families to Britain in July 2016, organised by the Cuba Solidarity Campaign.
3.Call on the UK Government to move forward to develop strong diplomatic, trade, scientific and cultural relations between our two countries based on mutual respect and understanding and oppose all US extraterritorial threats against UK-based companies
4. Urge branches and individuals who are not already affiliates/members, to join the Cuba Solidarity Campaign to help bring an end to the blockade once and for all