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7th December 2023

Statement on the passing of Benjamin Zephaniah

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign and all our members and affiliates we would like to offer our deepest sympathy to Benjamin's family, colleagues and friends.

Benjamin was a long time patron of the Cuba Solidarity Campaign and a wonderful friend to the people of Cuba.

We will be forever grateful for his support for the work of CSC both through his wonderful performances at events, most memorably our Haiti Earthquake fundraising concert, and by adding his name to campaigns against the US blockade.

In support of our Friends of Cuba appeal Benjamin had said:

"We do what we do to support a small nation that is fighting to defend its sovereignty. We do what we do to gain justice for the Miami Five, to help with hurricane relief, and to support Cuban medical teams wherever they go in the world"

He was a committed anti-imperialist and internationalist in every way, and recognised that we could all learn from the experiences of others, including those of the Cuban people struggling to survive under the threat of US aggression.

Benjamin will be missed by all of us at the Cuba Solidarity Campaign on a personal level, for the support he gave to Cuba, and also for his powerful contribution to British culture.

Our thoughts and solidarity go out to his family and friends at this difficult time.

Rob Miller
Director

Bernard Regan
National Secretary