

Japan-Cuba Summit Meeting
Measures for Strengthening the Relationship
(Fact Sheet)

< Economy / Economic relations >

- Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI) will recommence the underwriting of Cuba's overseas investment insurance and support greater investment by Japanese companies.
- The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and the Cuba Chamber of Commerce will sign a memorandum of understanding on cooperation.
- JETRO will open the largest Japanese pavilion at the Havana International Fair being held in Havana in November this year.
- The Second Joint Public-Private Committee meeting will be elevated to the parliamentary level, and it will be held in Tokyo in November this year for the purpose of promptly realizing concrete investment deals.
- Public-Private Conference for Infrastructure will be held in February 2017 and will seek to promote understanding for "investment in high quality infrastructure" in Cuba and to support activities of Japanese infrastructure-related firms in Cuba.
- Acknowledging the importance of civil aviation transport, Japan will move ahead with strengthening relations with Cuba in the aviation field, and strive to promote exchanges between Japan and Cuba.
- Signed notes on debt relief measures for Cuba (September 19).
- Concluded an exchange of notes concerning the provision of medical equipment with the goal of strengthening Cuba's cancer diagnosis capacity and minimally-invasive medical treatments, as the first full-fledged grant aid (September 22). In connection with this, Japan announced the implementation of new technical cooperation in order to strengthen and improve medical structures for diagnosing cancer and other diseases.
- A feasibility study on setting up a "Cuba-Japan Medical Center" will be implemented, and efforts will be made to combine Japan's advanced medical equipment and systems with Cuba's outstanding medical technologies.
- Announced the acceleration of a study on providing agricultural equipment with the goal of increasing rice seed production to support the food sector in Cuba.
- Announced the intention to implement grant aid cooperation to contribute to Cuba's socioeconomic development and improve the circumstances surrounding Cuba's international balance of payments.

- Expressed expectation toward the further strengthening of economic relations between Japan and Cuba, including through Japanese companies setting up businesses in Cuba in the future, and discuss the challenges of future loan assistance.
- Declared a standpoint of contributing to further advancing Cuba's agricultural development and sustainable social and economic development. Announced that the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will set up a local office in Cuba in order to promote full-fledged economic cooperation with Cuba in the future, beginning with the dispatch of study teams in the energy, transportation and other fields, and expressed expectation of cooperation by the Cuban side.

< Expanding exchange >

- Promote greater bilateral tourism exchanges utilizing opportunities such as the Tourism EXPO Japan.
- Sign agreements on cooperation between Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Waseda University and the University of Havana.
- Will seek to promote understanding of Japan among the people of Cuba by providing Japanese television content to Cuban television stations in the future through the Japan Foundation's Japanese TV Broadcasting Abroad project.
- Will dispatch a lecturer on baseball from Japan and invite gymnasts, gymnastics coaches etc. to Japan in order to further accelerate sport exchanges between the two countries, including baseball, as well as the Sport for Tomorrow program of international contribution through sports, which the Government of Japan is running with the goal of successfully holding the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.
- Will invite more than 100 Cubans to Japan over the coming three years by utilizing programs such as the "Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program," Scholarships of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), JICA Training Program, and Japan Foundation's Japanese language training program.

< Cooperation on resolving the challenges facing the international community >

- On the account of the following mutual visits by VIPs, exchanges of views were held on promptly achieving Security Council reform, cooperation on disarmament, nonproliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear power, and the North Korea situation:
 - Visit to Japan by Vice-President of the Council of Ministers of Cuba Cabrisas

(March 2015)

- Visit to Cuba by Minister for Foreign Affairs Kishida (May 2015)
- Visit to Japan by First Vice-president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba Díaz-Canel (June 2016)
- Visit to Cuba by Prime Minister Abe (September 2016)
- Appreciated Cuba's initiatives as Chair of the Association of Caribbean States. Japan will join the Association as an observer state in order to strengthen collaboration with the Caribbean states in the future.