

# *CELAC Prepares the Havana Declaration as Heads of State Arrive for II Summit of CELAC*

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Havana, January 26 (RHC) The national coordinators of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) worked out the Havana Declaration of political character and based on the principles of the regional integration bloc.

During a press conference at the venue of the summit, deputy foreign minister Abelardo Moreno said that the document affirms Celac's goal to achieve unity with sovereignty, flexibility and the active participation of all 33 Celac member states in tune with international law and the UN Charter.

The declaration includes the major problems affecting the region, aboriginal and afro-descendent peoples, as well as the relations between the states and transnational companies.

The document supports Argentina's claim over the Malvinas islands and rejects the US economic blockade of Cuba and the blacklisting of the island by the US as a state sponsor of terrorism, Moreno said and added that also considered is the Celac membership of Puerto Rico

The national coordinators held sessions during two days, prior to the meeting of foreign ministers on Monday, who will consider and approved the documents issued by the coordinators, most of whom are deputy foreign ministers from Celac nations.

Celac was born in 2011 in Caracas. Its first summit was held in Santiago de Chile and the bloc is considered the most significant institutional organization to have been achieved in the most recent history of our part of the world.

Meanwhile, several heads of state began to arrive in Havana for the Summit, including Bolivia's Evo Morales, who said that the summit will offer the opportunity to consider new social policies for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Brazil's Dilma Rousseff also arrived here on Sunday, and she is expected to have bilateral talks with president Raul Castro and to inaugurate the first segment of the Mariel container terminal on Monday. Other heads of state continue to arrive Sunday and Monday to take part at the regional event.

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