

# *Ralph Gonsalves says Cuba's role in Caribbean integration decisive*

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Montego Bay, Jamaica, July 7 (RHC) – The Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves, told Prensa Latina on Friday that Cuba's role in Caribbean integration was decisive.

Gonsalves pointed to the importance of Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel attending as special guest the 39th CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting that took place in Jamaica this week. He said Diaz-Canel had a direct and fruitful interaction with his Caribbean peers present at a working lunch in his honor on Thursday.

The relations have been strengthened between the two sides, and I want the Cuban people to know that CARICOM member countries have the common goal of moving forward in the search for stronger ties with Cuba, he said.

Prime Minister Gonsalves said he was satisfied with the results of the 39th CARICOM Conference, adding that it had been a decisive step in the Caribbean integration process in all areas, including migration, specifically the possibility of a future free access of citizens across countries of the region.

He said the formation of a single economy in the Caribbean Community and the possibility of a common currency was a long process, full of contradictions, but one that must be continued with optimism.

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