## A new step in Cuba-China cooperation



## By María Josefina Arce

Cuba and China have taken a new step in strengthening their strategic alliance. The two friendly nations continue to explore various opportunities to deepen and expand the already fruitful ties of collaboration in various fields, for the welfare of their peoples and sustainable development.

The thirtieth session of the Intergovernmental Commission for economic, commercial, financial, cooperation and scientific-technical relations between Cuba and China showed that the two countries have many potentialities in which profitable exchanges can be realized.

At the meeting, held in recent days in Beijing, new agreements were signed in priority sectors such as renewable energy, food production, communications, transportation, sugar industry and trade.

Photo: Prensa Latina

Of course, biotechnology was once again at the center of mutual interest. Both countries have defined this branch of science as a symbol of bilateral ties. The joint ventures formed over more than 20 years of cooperation have contributed a great deal to the health of both peoples.

From the economic point of view, they have also had a high impact, since significant income has been achieved, which has allowed to allocate it to this and other relevant areas for the two States.

In fact, last September, the Twelfth Meeting of the Cuba-China Joint Working Group on Biotechnology was held in Havana, with the participation of representatives of the Chinese government and business sectors.

A sign of Beijing's commitment to continue consolidating collaboration in this field, which was extremely important to face COVID 19, and showed how much can be done jointly to prepare for future health emergencies.

Photo: Prensa Latina

The agreements signed on that occasion range from the development of a synthetic peptide with anticancer action, to the creation of a neurobiology laboratory and the development of molecules for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.

The Asian giant has highlighted the remarkable progress of Cuban biotechnology, which has achieved innovative medicines, thanks to the high qualification of its scientists and the political will of the government to support this vital sector.

The interest of Havana and Beijing to continue betting on the growth, development and consolidation of cooperation for the welfare of the two countries, which although geographically distant are united by decades of friendship and solidarity, is marked.

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