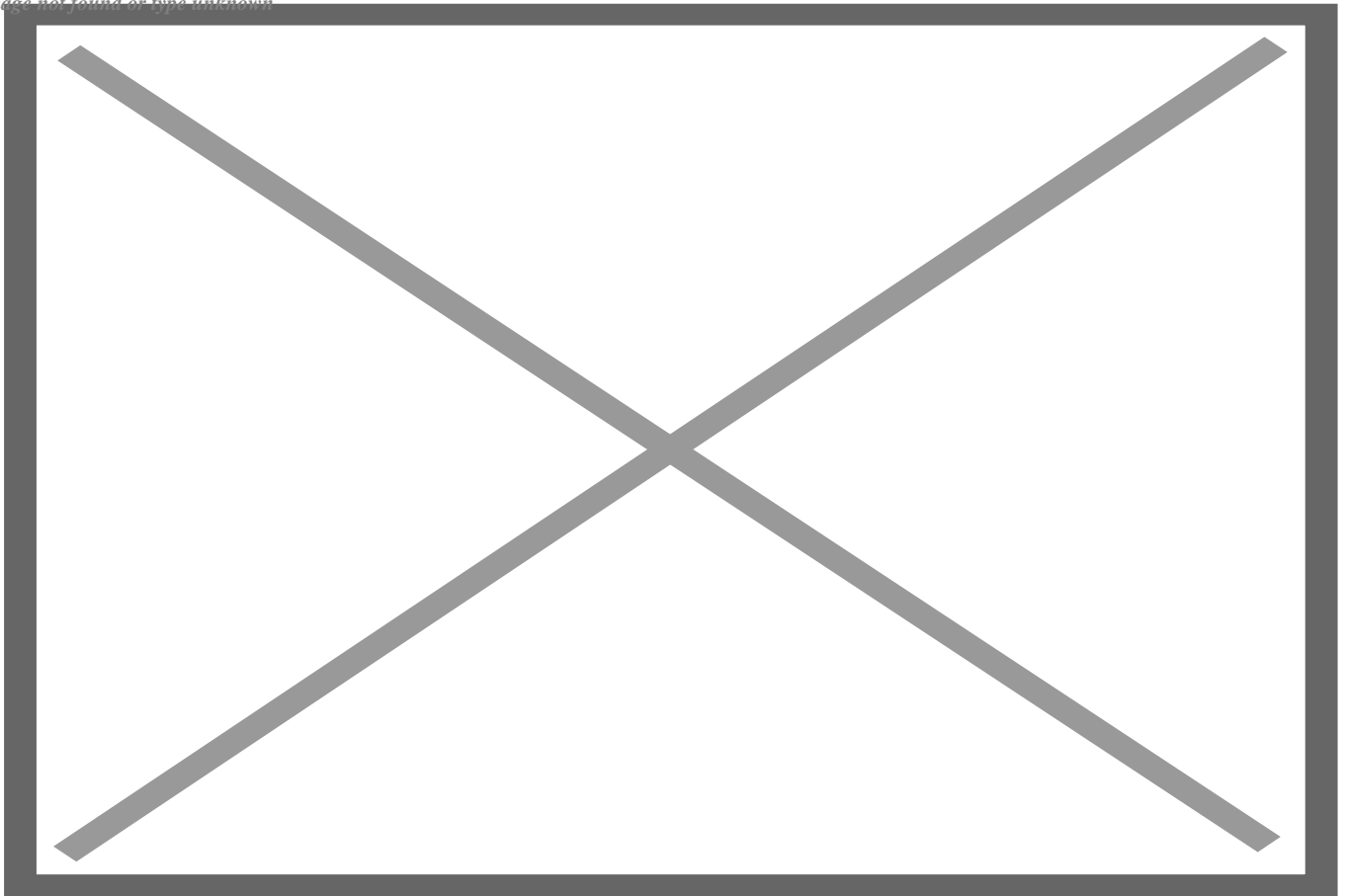


Iranian president affirms strengthening relations with Cuba will be a priority

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Havana, July 30 (RHC) -- "Strengthening relations with Cuba will be a priority," said the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Masud Pezeshkian, upon receiving, on Monday afternoon, the member of the Political Bureau and Prime Minister, Manuel Marrero Cruz, who is on an official visit to the Persian nation, which will extend until August 1st.

At the meeting, held at the Presidential Palace, the Iranian president expressed the will to continue the excellent relations between the two countries, and to work together on the implementation of all the

agreements signed, mainly in the economic, commercial, cooperation and investment areas.

Masud Pezeshkian praised Fidel's leadership and imprint on the revolutionaries, while highlighting Cuba's long struggle against imperialism and unilateralism. Iran has always supported the ideals of independence and freedom, and will continue to do so, he said.

Both sides also agreed on the absolute condemnation of Israel's genocide in Gaza, and expressed the need to adopt measures to stop the fire and barbarism.

The Prime Minister, for his part, wished the newly elected president success in his administration and conveyed greetings from Army General Raúl Castro Ruz, leader of the Cuban Revolution, and from the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party and President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez.

He also highlighted the potential for cooperation between both nations, with a favorable performance in the biotechnology sector, and with common interests in other areas such as food production and energy.

This Tuesday, the Cuban Head of Government will participate, together with the delegation accompanying him, in the inauguration of President Masud Pezeshkian, a ceremony that constitutes the central activity of his first visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and which is expected to be attended by a number of high-level delegations.

Also present at the event were the Iranian acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ali Bagheri, and, on the Cuban side, Elio Rodríguez Perdomo, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Yury Valdés Balbín, member of the Council of State, and other officials of the Cuban Foreign Ministry. (Source: ACN).

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