

# *United Nations Acknowledges Cuba's Contribution to South-South Cooperation*

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Havana, May 21 (RHC-AIN)-- Myrta Kaulard, resident coordinator of the United Nations to Cuba, acknowledged on Wednesday in this capital the island's contribution to the strengthening of South-South cooperation in order to promote the social development of the continent.

At the regional meeting of Population Dynamics, Territory and Local Development, scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday in Havana, Kaulard expressed the importance of spaces for debate in order for nations in the region to learn from Cuban experiences and vice versa.

This meeting is of great interest for cooperation agreements signed with Cuban authorities for the years 2014-2018, aimed at accompanying strategies designed to guarantee the quality of life of the population in a sustainable way, she pointed out.

Likewise, she stressed that neighborhoods are considered essential spaces for socio-economic progress in Cuba, currently engaged in the updating of its economic model, in which new roles and functions are assigned to authorities and institutions at local level.

The line of work of the United Nations in Cuba prioritizes support to communities in order to improve their management of development, with emphasis on enhancing the empowerment of girls and women through cultural programs, Kaulard said.

In addition, she pointed out that population issues linked to food security, sustainable agriculture, sustainable consumption and many others, are closely linked to the demographic changes shown by the region.

In the presence of representatives to the United Nations Population Fund of nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, the expert said she was very pleased to see the close relationship between the agency, the United Nations Development Program, UN-Habitat and nations the area, and how they join forces to achieve the well-being of all.

As part of the regional meeting, which has Havana's Fifth Avenue Hotel as its venue, participants will tour Old Havana in order to learn more about the comprehensive development projects carried out there.

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