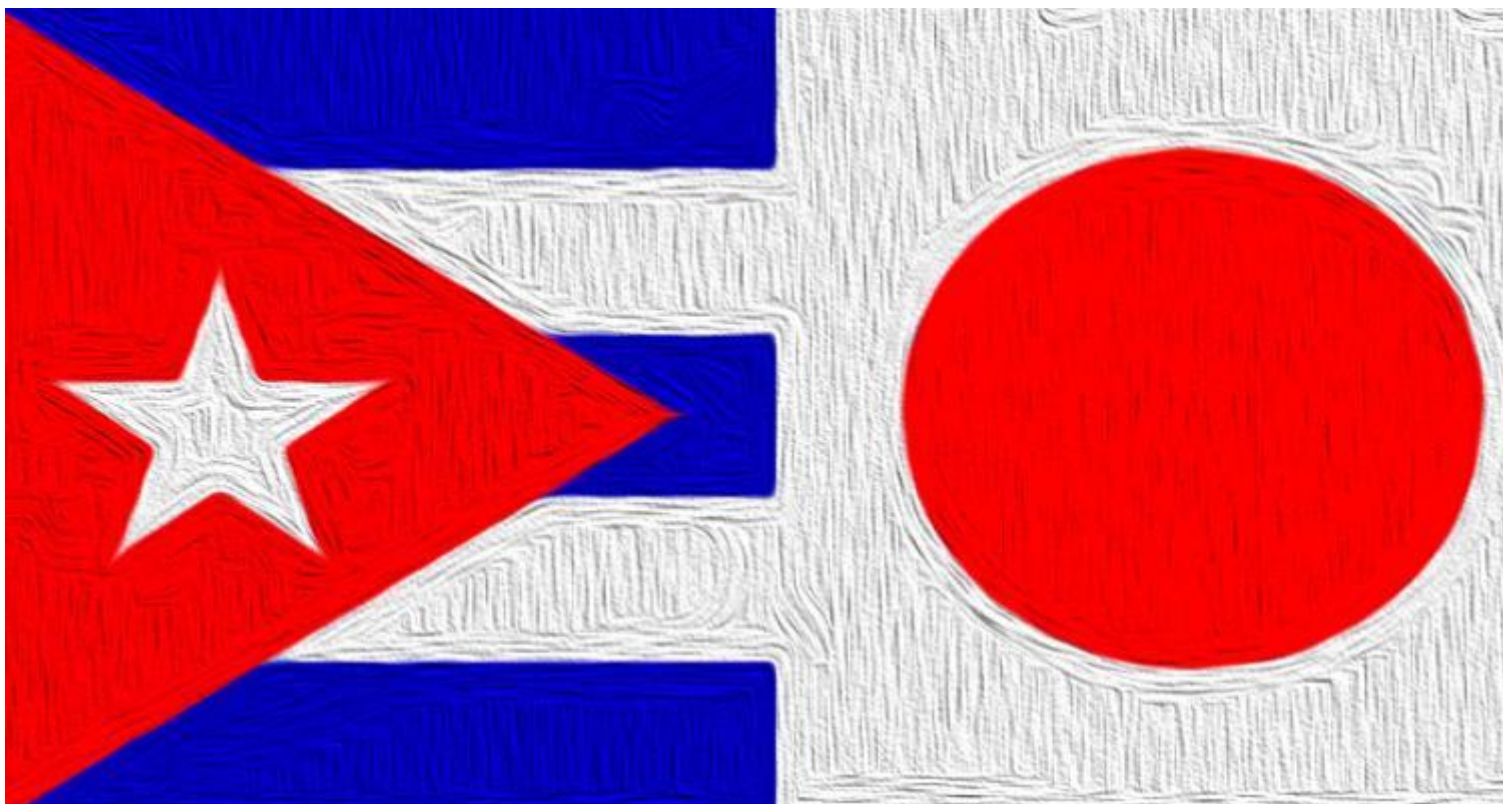


Japan and Cuba Boost Various Cooperation Projects



Havana, February 6 (RHC-ACN) The signing on Thursday of a contract to improve hygienic-sanitary conditions in the municipality of Centro Habana, in this capital, is part of the cooperation projects promoted by the Japanese Embassy in Cuba, Prensa Latina (PL) reported.

The embassy signed the agreement with the non-governmental organization (NGO) Movement for Peace, Disarmament and Liberty (MPDL), in order to support the delivery of cleaning equipment for waste collection, repair of communal spaces and sanitation of the capital municipality.

The project, which has funding of almost 70,000 euros, also includes the implementation of an educational program on the environment for primary and secondary schools of the locality.

According to PL, the Japanese ambassador to Havana, Masaru Watanabe, highlighted that Cuba is one of the most important nations of the Caribbean and his country supports various forms of cooperation, especially technical, which involves sending specialists in different areas.

Speaking to reporters, the diplomat specified that other initiatives include direct aid to communities and municipalities, which may include the participation of NGOs and stand out for allowing direct contact with local officials.

On the contract signed on Thursday, the president of the Municipal Administration Council of Centro Habana, Willy Fernandez, thanked the Embassy and the MPDL for the carrying out of a program that will impact on communities and hoped that there will be new actions of cooperation.

This cooperation becomes part of a multidisciplinary project, composed of institutions like the University of Havana, the Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Technical Institute, and the NGO Martin Luther King Center, among others, aimed at local development in the region.

The Ambassador added that one of the sectors of interest for Japan is tourism, the economic area, and education, because they want to make academic and school exchanges, all this with the cooperation of the Cuban government and people.

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