

# *Cuba and El Salvador boost economic cooperation*

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CUBA

EL SALVADOR



Havana, August 1 (RHC)-- The director for Latin America and the Caribbean with the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Trade and Investment, José Chaple, carried out a working visit to El Salvador, heading a technical delegation to negotiations with their Salvadorian counterparts toward expanding the 2012 Partial-Scope Trade Agreement for the mutual granting of tariff preferences.

During their stay in the Central American nation, the Cuban delegation was received by Salvadorian Economy Minister Luz Estrella Rodríguez, who expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved in bilateral trade under the agreement.

The Salvadorian official said that the ongoing negotiations will lead to the signing of a new agreement that will provide for further strengthened, more dynamic exchanges between authorities with El Salvador's Banco de Fomento Agropecuario and the Cuban Central Bank. She announced that she will be leading the delegation that will travel here to Havana in September for the official signing ceremony.

Although the current agreement does not include the liberalization of the entire universe of tariffs, it provides for tariff discounts on an important group of products from each country.

The 2012 Partial-Scope Trade Agreement also provides for the training of specialists, as well as information and experiences sharing in such areas as biotechnology, genetic engineering, medicine, and

offers mutual assistance for technological and productivity advancement.

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