

# *Cuban authorities report on the results of hard currency sales on the island*

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The Cuban Deputy Prime Minister and head of Economy and Planning, Alejandro Gil Fernández, said on Thursday that the measures for the sale of merchandise in the stores of free convertible currency have had good results.

Speaking at the TV and Radio Program Round Table, Gil stated that the purposes of these measures had been met, and their effectiveness is proven by the demand for the products on sale.

"This is an initiative that benefits all the people, regardless of the fact that not everyone can buy the products in the store, but with the foreign currency that is captured, the population in general benefits," he said.

Although the measure proves its worth, the minister said that more work must be done to improve it.

Gil Fernández said that the first steps are being taken for the participation of the national industry as suppliers in this commercialization.

The new measures announced during the program included the expansion of some of the high-end electrical appliances and electronic devices that will be available in the hard currency stores.

Likewise, it was announced that automobiles for private use would also be transferred to the convertible currency scheme, starting on February 24 in Havana. The auto sales will be expanded to the other provinces at a later date.

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