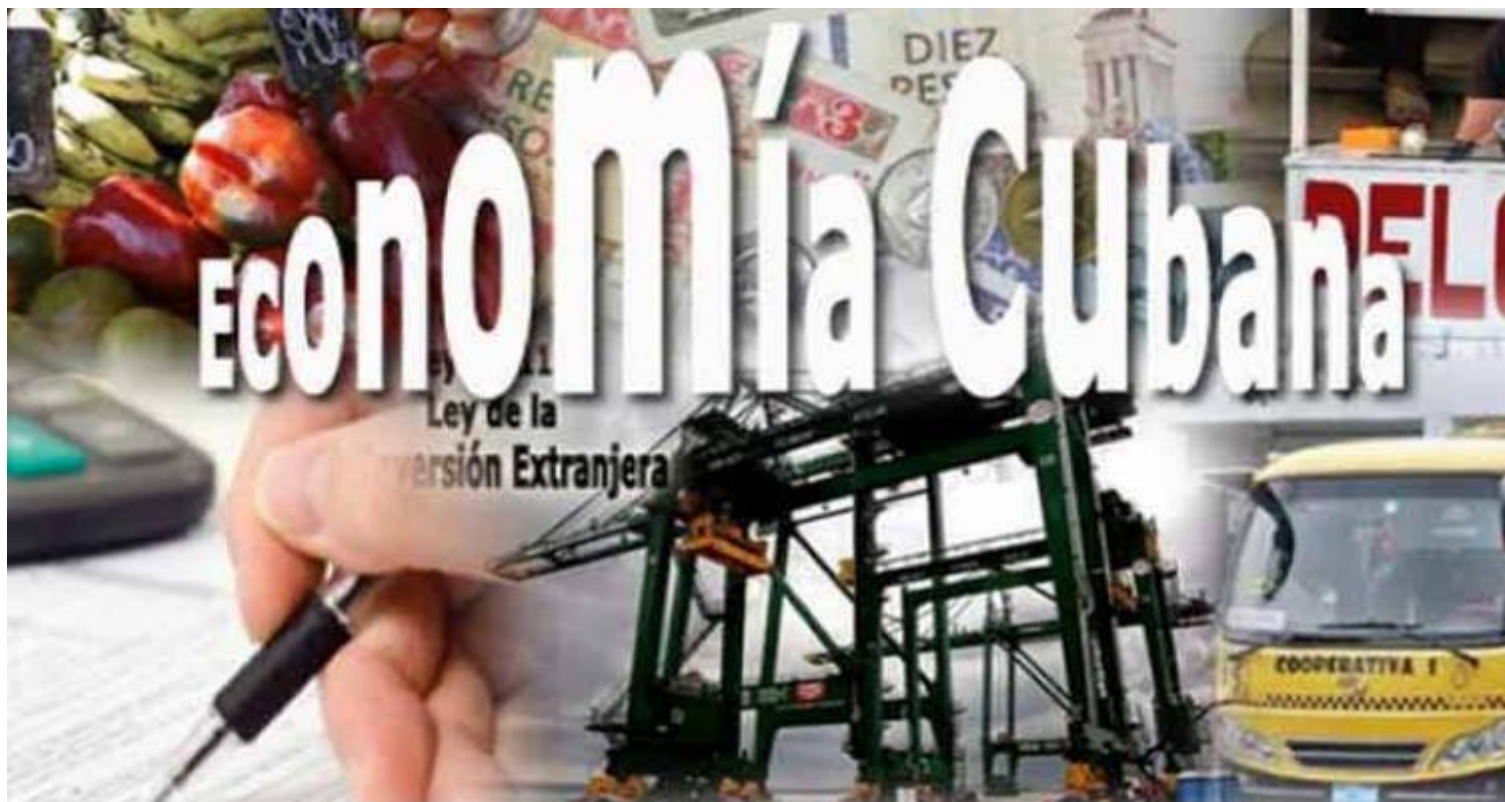


# *Cuba announces measures to raise foreign exchange*

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Havana, July 16 (RHC)-- The new economic measures in Cuba aim to collect the foreign currency needed to continue ensuring the basic rights of the people and the growth of industry, according to President Miguel Díaz-Canel.

During the presentation of the plan to strengthen the national economy after the crisis caused by the new Sars-Cov-2 coronavirus, the president said that the program focuses on the development of this sector with aggressiveness, intensity and innovation.

"We will focus on food production to achieve food sovereignty with a transformation in the Ministry of Agriculture, in the ways of marketing products, in imports of any economic actor," he said in an extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers.

In addition, the measures propose the reorganization of internal trade and the role of the socialist enterprise, as well as the increase of all the productions. In this regard, the president acknowledged that the current shortage in the domestic retail market is due, among other things, to the U.S. economic blockade and the persecution against exports and credit granting of the nation.

"The self-proclaimed 'patriots' who distort the government's management are not talking about this," he denounced. The head of state called for reducing imports and increasing exports, as well as accelerating the monetary and exchange rate unification still pending in the country.

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