

# *Cuba and Gabon to strengthen sports cooperation*

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Havana, June 15 (JIT) - Gabon's Minister of Sports, Youth and Associative Life, Frank Nguema, arrived in Cuba at the head of a delegation of his country with the aim of strengthening bilateral sports cooperation.

Upon his arrival at José Martí International Airport the leader of the African nation in statements to JIT highlighted the excellent relations of friendship and collaboration between the two nations, as well as the outstanding work of the Cuban embassy to be able to update exchanges in different areas.

"In 2016 there was an official visit to Gabon where we expressed our interest in continuing cooperation in sports because Cuba is a world power located among the first 15 countries," he said.

"We came to learn from the Cubans because with the modest means the island conquered 15 medals," he added referring to the seven gold, three silver and five bronze medals they accumulated at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games last year.

He recalled that his country won the only Olympic medal in London 2012, silver in taekwondo through taekwondoka Anthony Obame, +80 kg category, although they want to win more medals, but they must change the methods in the way they work. That is why they have come to Cuba to learn from their experiences in the training of high performance athletes.

"In this visit we are going to renew a cooperation agreement, which will allow us to have Cuban coaches in our country with a view to strengthen the sports capacity because we have about twenty national federations and with the help of the Greater of the Antilles we can increase our results in this sphere," expressed Nguema.

During his stay in Cuba, the Gabonese sports minister will visit the facilities of the Cerro Pelado and Giraldo Córdova Cardín national high-performance schools, the Anti-Doping Control Laboratory and the Cuban Sports Research Center, among other activities.

The delegation from the African country was received at José Martí airport by INDER's international relations officer, Lisandra Zamora Ruiz, and Gabon's Ambassador to Cuba, Jean-Claude Moussounda.

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