

# *Mexican Foreign Minister Pledges Stronger Ties with Cuba*

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Havana, September 9 (RHC) -- Visiting Mexican Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Meade pledged Monday to bolster ties with Cuba. Addressing students at Havana's Higher Institute of International Relations, Meade said the bilateral relationship between the two countries witnessed fruitful results and laid a basis for new ventures.

"Mexico wants more trade with and investment in Cuba, and that moves us to pay close attention to the process of modernization" in the country, he said. Stressing Mexico's strategic and fraternal ties with Cuba, Meade also highlighted Cuba's economic reforms and investment potential it offers.

He is scheduled to meet with Mexico's ambassador to Cuba Juan Jose Bremer and a member of Cuba's Council of Ministers. It is Meade's third visit to Cuba in recent months and the first leg of his three-country Latin American tour. He will also visit Panama and Nicaragua.

One of Cuba's main trading partners in the region, Mexico's bilateral trade with Cuba reached 510 million U.S. dollars in 2012.

Cuban President Raul Castro and Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto have agreed to take concrete steps to identify new opportunities for boosting bilateral trade and cooperation. /Source> Xinhua

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