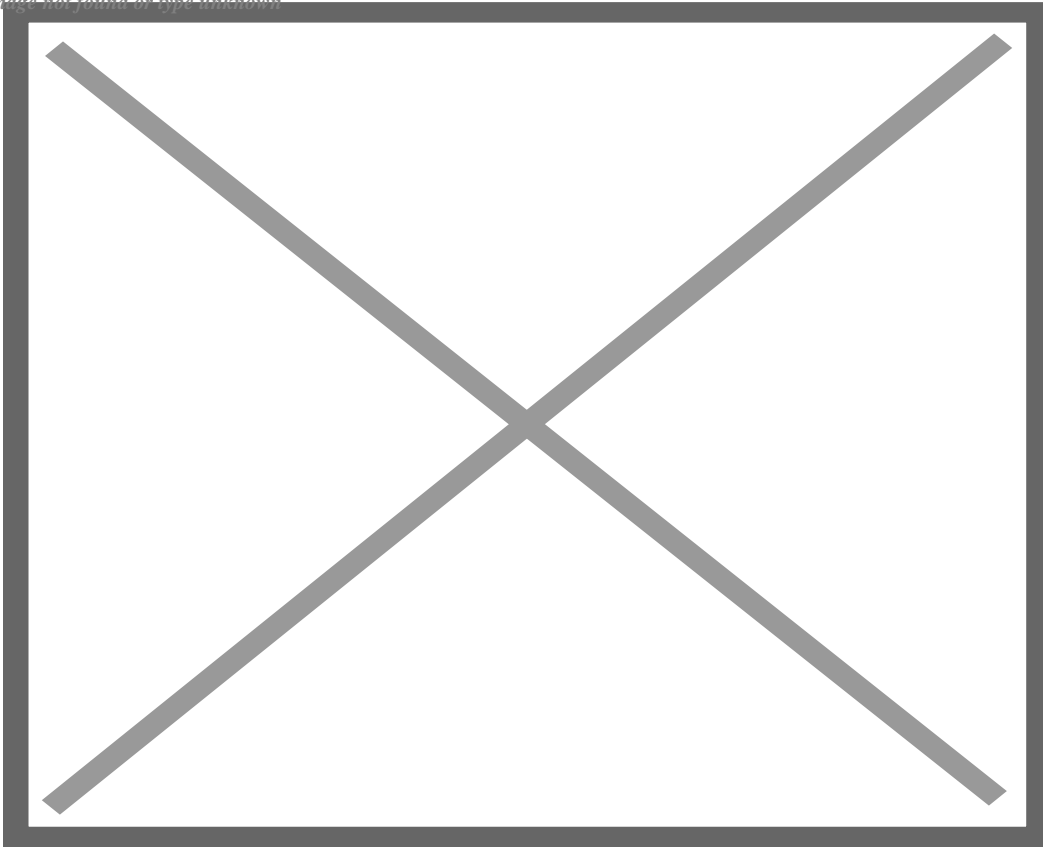


A year of intense work in favor of the aspirations of the South

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By María Josefina Arce

Cuba hands over to Uganda the pro tempore presidency of the Group of 77 and China, a responsibility it has held since January last year and which it assumed with the will to work in favor of the aspirations of the nations of the South.

This was clearly expressed by Cuban President Miguel Díaz Canel when he said: "You can count on Cuba and its unwavering commitment to work tirelessly, together with all the members of this essential grouping in the defense of the supreme interests of our nations".

This is evidenced by the work carried out during these twelve months, which has been highlighted by members of the coordination mechanism, who describe it as highly positive.

Cuba brought to the different international forums the urgency of taking into account the developing countries, in view of the problems facing the world, such as poverty, inequality and the climate crisis.

The voice of the South was strongly felt in the U.S. city of New York, at the seventy-eighth session of the UN General Assembly and at the Climate Ambition Summit, where Cuba advocated that industrialized nations support the climate actions of the South in a real spirit of cooperation.

During its presidency, Cuba encouraged the necessary unity of the bloc, consensus and complementarity among its members.

Cuba, which has always been an example of solidarity, also promoted cooperation among its members and with other blocs. During his participation in the BRICS Summit in South Africa last August, the Cuban leader referred to the multiple joint actions that can be developed by both mechanisms.

In his year at the head of the coordination mechanism, the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China was held on September 15 and 16 in Havana, with the participation of UN Secretary General António Guterres. Declaring September 16 as the Day of Science, Technology and Innovation in the South was a proposal of the meeting, approved earlier this year by the UN General Assembly.

The Caribbean nation will hand over the presidency in the framework of the Third South Summit, to be held this Sunday in Kampala, which is the highest decision-making body of this mechanism, considered of great importance in the democratization of international relations.

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