

*Cuba at G-77 and China
advocated unity within diversity*

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By Roberto Morejón

Cuba reaffirmed its possibilities of reaching consensus in favor of multilateralism during its pro tempore presidency of the Group of 77 and China, a one-year period recently concluded.

The government of the largest of the Antilles handed over this responsibility to Uganda on the occasion of the third South Summit, in Kampala, the capital, a scenario where many of the attendees praised the role played.

Although in 2023 the Cubans deployed multiple initiatives to articulate examinations of issues of great importance for the G-77 and China, the summit meeting in Havana last September stood out.

In order to address the role of science, technology and innovation, heads of state and government and other envoys emphasized solidarity, building a fairer relationship and a truly democratic order.

All the more so because these are times when representatives of the industrialized North exert pressure and even sanction other states.

In the midst of accentuated material limitations caused mainly by the strong U.S. blockade, the land of José Martí convened the summit and offered a space characterized by austerity.

In previous months, he had deployed an intense agenda to express the point of view of a distinctive group of 80 percent of the world's population and more than two thirds of the UN membership.

In fact, Havana hosted important meetings in 2023, including those of the G-77 and China's ministers of education, culture and tourism, as well as the meeting of heads and senior environmental authorities of the 134 member countries.

Cuba, on behalf of these nations, underscored in international forums the negative consequences of the technological gap that curtails opportunities for progress in the global South.

Now, in Kampala, a delegation led by Vice President Salvador Valdés Mesa once again stressed the need for unity.

As the Vice President pointed out, there are strong attempts to divide the G-77 and China and the global South in general, in order to distract attention from one of the priority causes, transforming the unjust international order.

From now on, the conglomerate of nations has the mission of executing almost twenty cooperation projects designed under the presidency of Cuba. This country is grateful for the acknowledgements for the mission carried out and offers its modest contribution to materialize the plans conceived.

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