

CUBA

Current Affairs

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Embassy of Cuba in Cambodia

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Facts on Cuba 2018

February 4th, 1962 :

Second Declaration of La Habana.

February 24th, 1895:

The Baire Call, initiates the Necessary War, as José Martí called the re-launching of our struggle for independency against Spain colonialism in Cuba.

Cuba condemns all terrorist acts, methods, and practices



Detail from the peace mural created by the Martha Machado brigade. Photo: Roberto Chile

This reprehensible act violates the postulates of the Proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace, adopted by heads of state and government during the 2nd Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Havana in January of 2014.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba condemns the terrorist attack perpetrated in Esmeraldas, Ecuador, and expresses its solidarity with the government of this sister country and its people.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Cuba wishes the victims of these acts a rapid recovery and reiterates our firm rejection and condemnation of all terrorist acts, methods, and practices, in all forms and expressions, regardless of their motivation.

U.S. companies insist that Cuba is a safe destination



Author: National news staff | informacion@granma.cu

Photo: Juvenal Balán

A group of U.S. tourism companies insisted during a press conference this week in Havana that their country's citizens can continue to visit Cuba, since it is well known as a safe destination, and trips are not prohibited despite the Trump administration's new policies.

Executives from travel agencies, hotel chains, airlines, and cruise line companies expressed their interest in continuing

commercial relations with Cuba.

Terry Dale, CEO of the U.S. Tour Operators Association (USTOA), affirmed, "The message is that Cuba is open for business, it is safe, marvelous, and legal for travelers from the United States."

During 2017, some 620,000 travelers from the United States visited Cuba, the majority expressing their satisfaction with the experience and the country's secure environment, despite the State Department's travel warning that U.S. citizens should "reconsider" plans to visit the island.

Security and Kindness, top the Preference for Cuba



Written by PL. <http://cubasi.com>

Most of the foreign tourists arriving in Cuba comment today as the most impressive traits of the trip: the people and street security, besides looking for beaches and nature in their vacations.

They give such impressions to their guides and to reporters who persistently look for cracks in the opinions of those who prefer this island as the ideal place to rest, already over four million per year in foreign visitors.

That was confirmed by professionals of travel agencies of the United States, who meeting in Havana agreed in such opinions and thus, do their bit in this destination's attraction.

That event grouped this week executives of travel agencies, hotels, tour operators, airlines and cruisers, who expressed their interest in continuing with commercial relations with this country and its authorities.

The U.S. recreation industry is a sample button due to the bans faced by Washington subjects to travel freely to Cuba and their attraction for the island. They became a measuring stick as about 620 thousand U.S. citizens traveled to Cuba in 2017.

Now, U.S. President Donald Trump charges again in his recent speech on the State of the Union, intensifying his critics against several nations, including Cuba.

These opinions come a few hours later than what was said by Terry Dale, president of the Association of Tour Operators of the U.S. who assured to be open for business in a very secure country, marvellous and legal for travellers from the northern country.

Official reports said very appropriately that this archipelago has more than 67 thousand hotel rooms, to which is added two thousand private restaurants and over 21 thousand rooms in private homes. Canada continues as first emitting market of travelers to Cuba with 34 percent of the total of arrivals, while the U.S. and Canada together amount to 45 percent of the total, followed by Europe with 33 percent.

Sixty-eight airlines fly to the island and connect with 70 important cities of the world, while cruisers operate 25 ships to become many more, with 265 stopovers and more than 170 thousand passengers, according to data of 2017. As the old saying goes, so many looks cannot be wrong in a world that offers very beautiful and interesting destinations, but with security problems and where people may even reject those arriving.

Thus Cuba, now, instead of having negative promotion, has a positive, attractive and original, based on the shoulders of its little over 11 million citizens.

Safety and Emergencies Fair Attracts Market to Cuba



Written by AGENCIES / <http://cubasi.com>

New business opportunities in security stand out in the first edition of Securtec, which will conclude today with an investment forum.

The professional fair of urban security and means of protection reached a key moment for Cuba with the increase of the range of opportunities, among them, the growing tourism development.

Jesús Fierro, manager of the Caribbean region at the Bosch Security Systems, explained that they are satisfied with the steps taken on the island.

His company, which markets video systems, fire detection system, intruder alarm systems, voice evacuation equipment, and access control systems, among others, is working in Cuba three years ago through another company that sells, imports and gives technical services.

Fierro said that the video, fire detection and access control systems, are the best welcome on the island.

During the first edition of the International Fair, organized by Fira de Barcelona and the Palco Business Group, Cuban and foreign companies from the United States, China, Mexico, Panama, Holland, Spain, Germany, Italy, Colombia, and other countries are participating.

Equipment and software sellers, manufacturers, service providers, institutions, consultancy firm, production companies and in general professionals of the sector come together in this international event.

The War Against Us: A Book of Love for the Struggle



Cubasi Translation Staff / Amikal Labañino Valdés

Presented in the Cuban capital, the book "The War against Us" speaks of love as the main weapon of revolutionaries to face that cultural war, of symbols, of thoughts against us and according to Martí, we had to win it with thoughts. We spoke with the author, the professor, writer and former agent of the State Security of Cuba, Raúl Capote Fernández.

A first assessment of "The War against Us".

The book is born after the encounters we sustained after the accusation of the Reasons of Cuba in 2011 with universities, job places and mainly encounters we had with many youths in many places of the country. And we realized there was a group of knowledge, a group of topics to which new generations specially the youngest ones were unfamiliar with. And that's the origin of the book, of the idea of filling those gaps a bit... to shape a little so that it helped as a tool in the war against us. Even the book begins like that telling a story of one of those encounters where a student asked me a group of

ideas, a group of things I was speaking about. I also realize that when I spoke to them about the CIA, they didn't know what I was talking about, for them it was something very distant, the vision they had of the CIA was almost always related to attacks, rather the terrorist actions than with the topic at hand, the war of symbols, the cultural war, of that war against us for so long time.

The book portrays in its pages how they did it through Europe, how they steered the war against socialism in East Europe, how they even did within the United States with the counter-cultural movement which is very interesting, how they were able to transform that entire movement of struggle for civil rights, against the war of Viet Nam, how they changed it into a movement *Light*, how they were able to transform many of the most belligerent sectors in that confrontation into commerce, in market turning-points, like the rock music movement.

The book comprises how the media was built, those large press media, maybe a topic that deserves a book to go deeper but... as the European press agencies were created, many agencies that people today consider free. How were they created by the CIA in certain moments, how they bought journalists, how they bought the great intellectuals from Europe so they joined the ranks against socialism, how they used cinema (...) which played a very important role in the construction of the North American capitalism and the image they want to sell worldwide. I also make reference to the levels achieved by the North American cultural penetration everywhere, the positive features about it, and the negative as well. (...) And my idea on how we should face that: what we can do to have countermeasures to the plan devised by the empire to the end the Cuban Revolution.

"I believe that Love is the main weapon we revolutionaries have. It's our weapon of victory."

The book speaks of war, but the entire story revolves about love. How to understand that opposition?

I believe that it's the main weapon we revolutionaries have. It's our weapon of victory. The human being has faced for centuries the permanent hatred of what it is a class-divided society. I believe that the society divided in classes, the exploitation to which man has been subjected for years, man in every social economic body that have existed through the history of mankind, that hatred has tainted the human being. That hatred has taken the human being to degrees of separation, to war degrees. And capitalism above all has been a system marked by hatred; it has been marked by the scorn towards what's humane. I think that war can only be won from love.

I think that war can only be fought by freeing man of that huge burden that crushes it, that fact of being merchandise. The great founders of Marxism said it with clarity, Marx said: What relationship might be between one merchandise and another one, what relationship of solidarity might be between one merchandise and another one. Man transformed into merchandise is nothing but that; he competes to have a space, to be sold, to be bought. However, the man we propose, the different man, the man of socialism, the man of communism, should be a man endowed with great feelings of love. And it's not me who said it, Che said it and Martí also, it is one of the main bases of Martí's ideology, the role of transformation love plays in the human being.

Only healing the soul of man after many centuries of disgrace, so many centuries of exploitation, so many centuries of misery, it can lead us to victory. It's not only what can be done regarding economic transformations, it's not only, even, what can be done regarding political transformations. If that doesn't go hand in hand with a transformation of the human being, of that new man Che spoke about, of that man different of socialism, gifted with the virtues, of all the human being was created for, if we don't achieve that it would be pointless, we could not reach what we intend to, to make the world a better place.

EU Offers to Assist to Cuba with Monetary Consolidation



The European Union has offered to advise Cuba on consolidating its two currencies, drawing on its experience from introducing the euro, an EU official said on Wednesday during a visit to Havana. Cuba has had two currencies for more than a decade, the peso (CUP), in which most wages are paid and local goods are priced, and the convertible peso (CUC), used in tourism, foreign trade and some stores carrying imported goods. The government has vowed to unify the currencies and there have been rumors that it would finally do so this year since President Raul Castro said in December that reform could no longer be delayed.

"We have offered technical assistance to the Cuban government to share our experience," said Stefano Manservigi, director general of International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission, said at a news conference. Manservigi said the EU had "perhaps the most significant experience worldwide in monetary transformation," derived from the conversion of a number of European currencies to the euro.

Manservigi's visit along with a delegation from the European Investment Bank, underscores the bloc's commitment to strengthening engagement with Cuba even as U.S. President Donald Trump and his administration back off fragile detente resumed under his predecessor Barack Obama.

Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, visited Cuba early in January to help strengthen member countries' economic and political ties with Cuba.

Economists have said the current monetary system and fixed exchange rates obscure inefficiencies in the state sector and make accounting difficult, and that unifying the currencies could be a disruptive market-oriented reform. The head of Cuba's reform commission, Marino Murillo, told the National Assembly last December that a group of 200 specialists was working intensely on the issue.

The EU Ratifies its Commitment in Advancing Renewable Resources in Cuba



HAVANA, Cuba, Jan 31 (ACN) The General Director of the European Commission's International and Development Cooperation, Stefano Manservigi ratified on Wednesday in Havana the European Union's commitment in advancing with renewable energy sources in Cuba.

The high-ranking official told the press that he has discussed the current situation of the country in the sector with government and business authorities in which the EU has destined 18 million Euros for a new program in face of the use of renewable energies. Manservigi who is in Cuba accompanied by a broad delegation, highlighted that the exchanges also included the analysis of the Government plans

to revert the current dependence of fossil fuels and produce 24 percent of electricity by the year 2030 from renewable resources. He pointed out that they also evaluated the possibilities of attracting investments aimed at assuring the creation of capacities and plants for the production of energy through solar, wind and sugar cane biomass resources. Manservigi referred to the importance of doing so, for the first time, under the support of the Political and Cooperation Dialog Agreement between Cuba and the EU, valid since November 1st, 2017 and with provisional character until it is ratified by the parliament of the 28 member nations. The directive announced that within the institutional framework, the 1st Joint Cuba-EU Council will be held February 27th which will lead to dialog and the identification of other bilateral cooperation areas which in addition to renewable energies both sides are currently focusing in agriculture and culture.

Manservigi referred in the need to encourage investments in Cuba currently affected by the US economic, commercial and financial blockade against the Caribbean island that are "contrary to European interests and an obstacle for the country's development". The European Union is Cuba's first trading and financial partner in addition to foreign investment in the tourist industry and over half of the island's visitors come from that regional block. Manservigi arrived to Cuba four weeks after the visit of the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The members of the European Commission, representatives of the European Development Bank and the members states of the EU were also part of the delegation.

Cuban Medical Brigade in Bolivia Celebrates 12 years of Creation



Yoandra Muro, head of the Antillean medical mission

La Paz, Feb 2 (Prensa Latina) The Cuban Medical Brigade (BMC) in Bolivia is today 12 years old, an occasion in which they confirm their commitment to life and the guarantee of health as an inherent right of all human beings.

With this premise, the first health personnel, who were part of the Henry Reeves detachment arrived in the Andean Amazon nation on February 2, 2006, to deal with disaster situations, stated Yoandra Muro, head of the Antillean medical mission.

It was precisely the historical leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro, who sent the doctors of in the island when coming to Bolivia to help solve the emergency unleashed in those times as a result of heavy floods, he recalled.

Since then, the doctors of the BMC earn with their daily work the respect and admiration of Bolivian authorities and people, who recognize the Cuban contribution to the im-

provement in the quality of life of the population, mainly in rural areas. In these 12 years, we treated more than 67 million people in the Bolivian territory and performed more than 224,000 surgeries, said Muro.

Regarding the Milagro operation, he noted that more than 692,405 ophthalmological operations were performed, of which 59, 568 for the treatment of cataracts. We also have five centers of that specialty for the care of patients with any eye disease, he added.

She noted the improvement in the quality of maternal- child care in the Andean nation, with the participation of Cuban physicians in more than 153 000 deliveries. In this regard, she stressed the work of the Bolivian doctors of my health program, who along with the Antilles professionals bring free medical care to all corners of the country. Currently, the BMC in Bolivia has a total of 759 cooperating distributed in the nine departments of the country.



United Nations Highlights Cuban Advances in the Attention of Senior



HAVANA, Cuba, (ACN) Cuba's advances in the attention of senior citizens were highlighted on Thursday in New York during the Aging Forum sponsored by the Population Fund.

The Director of the Population and Development Studies, Juan Carlos Alfonso Fraga said that the care of the elderly population has become a priority for the aging population in Cuba, reported CubaMinrex website.

The representative said that almost 20 percent of the Cuban population are 60 years and over and by 2025 it should reach 25 percent making it necessary to continue intensifying multidisciplinary and inter-sectorial work.

Alfonso Fraga said that the quality of life of the

people has increased considerably and this has provoked a life expectancy of almost 79 years while the infant mortality rate is four per one thousand live births. The Cuban specialist said that the aging population constitutes a positive element and an opportunity and challenge to strengthen public policies directed to senior citizens. He also spoke on the legal progress and its expression in the daily life, issues like social security, employment, pensions, health and protection in face of disaster risks. The Cuban expert highlighted before international specialists from different countries participating in the forum organized by the UN, that these realities have been possible thanks to the Revolutionary Government's firm commitment and the effort of the Cuban people in general.

“ Cuba’s life expectancy of almost 79 years while the infant mortality rate is 4 per 1000 live”

Does hope travel in a cell?



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Based on the very possibility of the human organism to replace damaged cells with healthy cells, as a result of various processes occurring in tissues, regenerative medicine is one of the most promising and fascinating branches of contemporary medical practice.

Not by chance, many scientists place it in the same range of impact of what in its time represented blood transfusion and bone marrow transplantation, now become common and recognized procedures in the treatment of different ailments.

Its basic pillars are stem cell therapy and the administration of bioactive proteins that have a regenerative capacity. Given their feasibility, they are the most widely used variants at the international level, sometimes supplemented with live tissue engineering.

As happened with biotechnology and genetic engineering, Cuba also ventured into regenerative medicine early on and on February 24, 2004, the first application with stem cells derived from the bone marrow took place in the country, in a patient who presented an ischemia in a lower limb, thus avoid-

ing the amputation of the affected foot.

According to what referred to Granma Doctor of Science Porfirio Hernández Ramírez, coordinator of the National Group of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cells, of the Ministry of Public Health, that was the first case reported for the American continent and the Caribbean area in that specific type of disease, and the second known in the world. «Only a few weeks later the use of platelets for regenerative purposes was introduced. This month of February marks the 14th anniversary of Cuba's insertion in that discipline,"- he said.

OPPORTUNITIES OF A NEW «SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION»

A fact that contributed in a decisive way to that Cuba could join with its own efforts to this new "scientific revolution" in the field of medicine, was the preparation in the Institute of Hematology and Immunology of a simple and practical method of obtaining so-called mononuclear cells from the bone marrow.

These are composed of a mixture or "cocktail" of different stem cells that interact with each other to increase their regenerative capacity. "If initially we only used those extracted from the bone marrow, then we started using the ones obtained from the peripheral blood by applying a granulocyte colony-stimulating factor of national production. Today that method is the most applied in Cuba and the results are similar to those of other nations with more complex procedures", he explained.

In 2016, regenerative medicine was extended to all provinces and the special municipality of Isla de la Juventud. At the end of last year there were 11 298 Cuban patients treated with stem cells, mainly in the specialties of Angiology, Orthopedics and Traumatology.

The favorable experiences reported in cases with severe arterial insufficiency of the lower limbs stand out in particular. A greater amputation was avoided in a range from 58 to 85% of the patients who had that indication, while in those suffering from intermittent disabling claudication (a less advanced variant of the aforementioned chronic arterial insufficiency), the rate of satisfactory recovery is in the order of 85% of the people assisted. Likewise, by the end of 2017, a total of 12,425 platelet components had been applied for regenerative purposes, especially in Orthopedics and Traumatology, Angiology and Sports Medicine.

Despite the opportunities that regenerative medicine offers to individuals with various chronic diseases that do not respond to conventional treatments, up to now it is part exclusively of research projects in which selected patients are included, therefore, it is not yet a treatment procedure of a massive nature, said Dr. Porfirio Hernández.

SOME PRECISIONS:

- In 2017, 798 implants with stem cells were made in the country. Cuba appears in the list of nations with a higher rate of application of regenerative cell therapy.
- Currently platelets are used for regenerative purposes in different medical specialties.
- The intra-articular implant with autologous peripheral blood mononuclear cells in patients suffering from osteoarthritis of the knee, without response to conventional treatments, reported an improvement in 95.1% of cases.
- Other favorable applications of cell therapy have been achieved in patients with periodontitis, spinal cord injuries, sequel of cerebrovascular accidents and Duchenne muscular dystrophy in children; while with the use of platelets there are reports of positive results in corneal ulcers, dry eye syndrome and in secondary injuries of sports practices, among other ailments.

"In last 14 years Cuba has taken very promising steps in regenerative medicine."

Camagüey Exhibits a More than 500 years-old Culture



Workers Plaza, Camagüey.

screened in the town during this days.

The program of activities includes the 7th International Symposium 'Challenges in the Management of Cities', which on its second day reserves the keynotes of the vice president of the National Council of Cultural Heritage, Nilson Acosta. While the minister adviser of the embassy of the Dominican Republic, Pedro Ureña, will make a review of the architecture of the capital of Cusco. The scientific section of the meeting, programmed by the Network of Offices of the Historian and the Curator of the Patrimonial Cities of Cuba, reserves, in turn, issues about heritage and socio-cultural projects as dynamic agents of historic centers.

Camagüey, Feb 3 (Prensa Latina) Traditions, legends and culture surround parks and squares of this eastern Cuban city that celebrates the 504th anniversary of the town, one of the first seven founded by the Spaniards in the island.

The more than 320,000 inhabitants of the city celebrate until February 7 the Cultural Week which reserved for today the cancellation of the Commemorative Seal for the birthday of the former Villa de Santa María del Puerto del Principe, in the Parque Ignacio Agramonte, located in the area declared by Unesco Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Also in that place was laid a wreath in the equestrian statue of the most famous patriot of Camagüey, Ignacio Agramonte, the protagonist of the national liberation heroics in the 19th century in this region; and to whom the film El Mayor is dedicated, a film to be

Rooster of Morón City, Camagüey.



20th Anniversary of Revolution Square in Camaguey



Ignacio Agramonte Plaza, Camagüey.

important moments of the site that has been the center of the most important events and meeting in the province with a capacity of over 100 thousand people. Important events were the vigil when the remains of the leader of the Revolution Fidel Castro passed through Camaguey during his transfer to Santiago de Cuba and the Holy Mass offered by Pope Juan Pablo II at the end of the 1990's.

May Day rallies, cultural galas in honor of the foundation of the City, and anti-imperialist gatherings held in the territory have been some of the main historic events. The monument complex includes a four-meter high bronze statue of Ignacio Agramonte is a distinctive element in the Square that also has some other spaces located in its base like the Nicolas Guillen Protocol Salon.

CAMAGUEY, Cuba, Jan 31 (ACN) The work of the workers of the Ignacio Agramonte Revolution Square in Camaguey was recognized on Wednesday on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the emblematic site. The Secretariat of the Cuban Workers Confederation, Cuban Women's Federation and the Young Communist League in the territory, in addition to the University of Camaguey, Provincial Assembly of the People's Power and several entities distributed the recognition to the working group. Its director, Isela Yero Tamayo expressed satisfaction in being among the institutions that are organizing Culture Week and later will receive the 504th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Villa de Santa Maria del Puerto del Principe distinction.

Speaking to ACN, Migdalia Ruiz Kirkwood who directed the Revolution Square for 15 years, recalled the impor-

Image of Jardines del Rey Hotels are Revitalized



Source: <http://www.cubanews.acn.cu>

CIEGO DE AVILA, Cuba, (ACN) After Hurricane Irma ripped through the province of Ciego de Avila and damaged the northern keys, the Jardines del Rey destination shows changes in its hotels and continue welcoming clients who prefer to vacation in that area.

The representative of the Tourism Ministry in the province, Iyolexi Correa told the press that they continue working in preparing the complex in order to offer its beautiful attractions with an improvement of the exterior of the hotels and work is underway to foment the sales increasing the number of vacationers to that region.

There are transformations that were seen during a tour of some of the installations that just simply seduces the visitors and some of them are still undergoing renovation work aimed at increasing the comfort without affecting the incoming visitors.

The Sercotel Club Cayo Guillermo currently has an occupancy rate of 42 percent and the perspectives for February, according the number of visitors up to date indicates that it will receive an average of 300 clients a day, said Hector Luis Castaneda, General Director of the installation.

Canada continues to be Cuba's first market in the region during high season and the installation itself, which also welcomes a number of Russian and Polish vacationers, he said. In addition to the all-inclusive services, it is an attraction for those that decide to visit the hotel, which has one of four kitesurf schools located in the keys, and many of the clients express interest for the sport. He added that there is another interesting offer and it's the for only adults section that has become implementing the installation and it has been sold very well up to date.

The Melia Cayo Guillermo also has improved with a change in its colors, adjusted the current tendencies and a great number of clients installed in the hotel with 160 rooms totally occupied now, said Jordano Barrera Pino, sales representative. Modifications are underway in restaurants and a ranchon specializing in Cuban food and a bar was opened in the lobby with great acceptance, all to increase the quality and variety of its services, he added.

The Melia Cayo Guillermo was benefitted by the inclusion of more sand in 2016 obtaining 40 meters of beach sand inside the islet for the enjoyment of the swimmers and after the hurricane, the sand grew 70 meters, said Barrera Pino.

“Jardines del Rey has 8 thousand 28 rooms distributed in 18 hotels that has international prestige for the quality of its services”

Hotel Melia Jardines Del Rey All Inclusive



Chinese Art at Havana's International Book Fair



Havana, (Prensa Latina) Chinese artists will be the protagonists in a cultural gala in this capital today, in the framework of the 27th International Book Fair, at which China is the guest country.

The Shandong Song and Dance Theater company arrived Havana. The 20-strong group will give two shows at the Alicia Alonso Grand Theater of Havana today and tomorrow.

Under the title '2018 Happy Celebration of Chinese Spring', the company will present some scenes of music, dance and acrobatics, all related to Chinese traditional culture.

According to organizers, several Cuban institutions will also contribute to highlighting Chinese culture during the fair, which opened yesterday in Havana and will conclude on

February 11.

The major event of Cuba's publishing sector will consist of exhibitions, concerts dance shows, wushu exhibitions (martial art) and a Chinese cinema screening at the Infanta Movie Theater.

The Chinese delegation attending the Havana International Book Fair consists of 130 representatives from more than 60 publishing institutions, including 11 famous writers whose most prestigious works have been translated into Spanish and English. At the same time, China exhibits about 7,000 volumes in a 400-square-meter stand at San Carlos de la Cabaña Fortress, the main venue for the cultural event.

Deeper cooperation between China and Cuba



Ten cooperation agreements between publishing houses and other cultural institutions of China and Cuba constituted a good start for the activities of the pavilion of the Asian nation, on the first day of the Book Fair, in which the Asian country was the Honor guest.

Premise for deepening the links also in this area, several of the agreements provide for the publication in Spanish, in our country, of important works of Chinese literature; including two titles that reflect part of the literary work and thinking of the President of the Asian giant: Xi Jinping telling stories and Articles by Xi Jinping in the Zhejiang newspaper, which the current Head of State published while serving as Secretary of the Provincial Assembly of the Zhejiang locality. Both titles have enjoyed wide acceptance in China.

Interesting agreements are those that establish the integration of the Cuban Editorial Nuevo Milenio to the Union of Chinese Academic Publications called The Belt, The Route; as well as the establishment in Havana of the International Publishing Office of the Corporation, Translation and Publication of China (CTPC), a project in which said entity participates, the Editorial of the University of Havana and the Confucius Institute.

Among the exchanges signed is also the one that establishes the cooperation in the project of translation and publication of literary works of both countries.

The ceremony, held at La Cabaña, the main venue of the Fair, was attended by numerous editors and writers from the Asian nation and the island, headed by Zhou Huilin, vice minister of the State Administration of Press, Publications, Radio, Film and Television of China, and Juan Rodríguez Cabrera, president of the Cuban Book Institute (ICL).

The Asian official considered that the signing of the agreements is a sign of the success of the cooperation between the editors of both countries, while Rodríguez expressed the permanent willingness to collaborate and make even deeper the Chinese cultural presence in the country.

It has been announced that the Fair will be able to see more than 3,000 titles of the Asian giant and a total of 7,000 copies, a varied collection that will undoubtedly attract the attention of many during the event.

“ With the signing of 10 bilateral agreements opened the first day of the Havana Book Fair activities.”

ZED Mariel renews her vows for development



After four years of creation, the Zone already has 33 users and has managed to capture a volume that exceeds 1,180 million dollars, with the representation of entities from 14 countries in Latin America, Europe, Asia and North America, five with 100% Cuban capital, 18 100% foreign capital, eight mixed companies and two contracts of the International Economic Association - AEI-, and includes the participation of nine multinationals and the creation of 4 853 jobs.

These are data that confirm the will to diversify the market and consolidate the ZED Mariel as an ideal enclave for the establishment of investments, which even without the required amount in accordance with the country's socioeconomic urgencies, mark a growing rhythm as there are already 10 projects in operations and other four

plants that must come into operation in the first half of 2018.

At a distance of 45 kilometers west of Havana and with an extension of 465.4 square kilometers -subdivided into nine sectors to be developed in stages-, ZED Mariel is a megaproject of Cuba with the aim of being a regional reference in the attracting foreign investment to promote and promote sustainable development based on advanced technologies that promote production of goods and provision of high added value services. Its privileged geographic location in the center of the Caribbean region and the Americas, between the junction of the north-south / east-west axes, makes it a confluence site of the main shipping routes of merchandise in the Western Hemisphere .

In terms of roads, at the end of 2017 it was possible to give use value to almost 22 km / lane and the parceling of some 39.3 hectares, which guarantee the full location and operation of a large number of entities and users. , among these, the CIGB, Arcos 33, TECONSA, Mathisa, BCC, Kamaz, Fidas Do Brasil, Nestlé, TGT, COI, ENGIMOV, Cimex Mariel, CEDA and Hotel Logistics.

It has completed a total of 26 bridges, five railway stations, 311 km of electrical networks, 34 km of sewerage and more than 70 of aqueduct, about 30, 2 km of street lighting; 50.6 of highway and other roads, together with 57.1 km of double track railway (with all the benefits and in function of speeding up the process of transportation of the goods), as well as a parcel surface greater than 259 hectares.

Very welcome is the news of the coming into operation soon, of the new Passenger Intermodal Station of Angosta, which will allow access to Sector A of the ZED from Havana and Artemisa provinces. The connection will be made from two local bus routes that will link the terminal with areas A-3 and A-4, as well as with the town of Mariel.

In the new building, equipped in a very functional way, with modern equipment and state-of-the-art technology, a set of services will be offered, including taxis, reservation and sale of train and bus vouchers, as well as a varied gastronomic offer.

The two most recent users, constituted after the XXXV edition of the International Fair of Havana (FIHAV) last November, are the Spanish companies TGT Caribe S.A. and Resa Caribe S.A., both 100% foreign capital. The first is a subsidiary of TGT ULTRAMAR OVERSEAS, SLU, has an investment of USD 25.4 million and will build a new and modern plant, in an area of 23,000 m², for the production of various types of cheese intended for the domestic market and to export, besides generating 90 new jobs.

With TGT Caribe SA the priorities of the Zone are fulfilled when paying tribute to the agri-food sphere, coinciding with the strategic lines of the country's economy and the possibility of having one of the main producers and distributors of cheese in Europe on the list of investors. , which is also another qualitative leap.

As for Resa Caribe SA, a subsidiary of the Resa Group, which already had a branch in Cuba, it will produce and market various multidirectional scaffolding equipment and electric access platforms, in addition to providing various services for industrial and construction maintenance, high demand in the branch of construction.

The 2018 beginning has had a good start in the ZED Mariel with five projects already under evaluation, for an amount of 408.1 million USD, which represent a happy omen for the businesses that manage to cover a multiplicity

“ Since the inauguration of the Mariel ZED the Cuban State has contributed an average of 300 million dollars annually”

ZED Mariel renews her vows for development



Special Development Zone of Mariel (ZEDM)

the largest volume of foreign investment attracted, have been integrated into the Area world-renowned companies such as Nestlé, Caterpillar and Sherritt, which are in addition to British American Tobacco, Unilever, CMA CGM, Bouygues Construction, Iberostar and Odebrecht, which they show greater confidence in their progress.

Among the most recent businesses are the International Economic Association Cupet-Sherritt International for oil exploration at risk in shallow waters; the first photovoltaic solar energy project in the Zone -Mariel Solar-; the establishment of the joint venture El Salado S.A to develop a real estate project associated with golf courses and the TOT Color S.A. dedicated to the manufacture of special paints.

The Russian Autocentro ZED also appears for the maintenance and manufacture of equipment of the Kamaz brand; the Portuguese entity Engimov Caribe S.A. linked with engineering and construction; Fidas do Brasil S.A., aimed at logistics activity; Cimex Mariel, with a totally Cuban capital for the production and distribution of Cubita and Arriero coffee, and Nescor S.A., a joint project between the Cuban company Coralsa and the Swiss multinational Nestlé, dedicated to the production and commercialization of roasted coffee and other foods.

The joint Cuban-Italian firm Industria Arthis S.A. that will produce disposable diapers for children and adults and Rimco de Puerto Rico, official distributor for the Eastern Caribbean and Cuba of equipment produced by the Caterpillar company, industry leader in equipment, among other brands.

It is worth noting the container terminal, which already operates considerable amounts of commercial cargo and, as part of its expansion strategy towards the region, maintains exchange relations with 14 of the most famous shipping companies on a global scale.

A lot of satisfaction is expressed by the businessmen and executives who access the Zone from the facilities offered by the Single Window System, which speeds up the legal procedures and saves time and resources of all kinds, providing from the first contact with the country, much confidence and security to engage in an efficient way any project or business.



of sectors, capitals coming from diverse nations. These investors are direct beneficiaries of a special legal and tributary regime, among other incentives to attract national and foreign investment, technological innovation and industrial concentration, together with the generation of new sources of employment, in a constant articulation with the national economy.

Business and other news

With a total invested amount of 237 million 341 000 dollars that includes national and foreign capital, the year 2017 stands out for the ZED Mariel, as the largest number of business establishments (12 new approved users) and, above all, the most diversity and quality in terms of the incorporated projects. In addition to being

