**The Caribbean comes together in Cuba**

This week Cuba will once again become the capital of the Caribbean, as it hosts various events addressing key issues for the region, such as tourism, trade, combating climate change and transport.

Events will kick-off in Havana on March 8 with the Association of Caribbean States’ (ACS-AEC) First Cooperation Conference, which will see the participation of representatives from international organizations and countries which, given their experience in the field, could contribute to the region’s development.

Meanwhile the Preparatory Meeting of the 22nd Ordinary Meeting of the ACS-AEC Ministerial Council will take place on March 9, followed by the 22nd Ministerial Council Meeting of the bloc – who’s pro tempore presidency has been held by Cuba since 2016 - on the 10th.

These events are taking place at a time when the organization is undergoing a revitalization process. The ACS-AEC was created in 1994 as a mechanism to promote dialogue, cooperation, and joint action among Caribbean countries.

Likewise, the Fifth Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom)-Cuba Ministerial Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 11, to review the state of relations between the island and the regional bloc.

Cuba has worked closely with Caribbean countries on issues such as combating climate change, the development of sea transportation in the region, and sustainable tourism; and continues to uphold its commitment to work in solidarity with these nations.

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