

# *Visiting Prime Minister of Japan Meets with Raul and Fidel Castro*

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Havana, September 23 (RHC/acn)-- Cuban President Raul Castro received visiting Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe..

During official talks, the two leaders reviewed bilateral relations. Cuba and Japan expressed willingness to keep working to expand their links in areas such as trade and economy. The two sides also discussed international issues.

In the framework of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's official visit here, a document was signed for a donation by Japan of medical equipment for the Cuban health system.

And revolutionary leader Fidel Castro met on Thursday with visiting Japanese Premier Shinzo Abe.

Abe recalled Fidel's past visit to Japan and its significance for the strengthening of bilateral relations of friendship between the Japanese and the Cuban people.

Fidel Castro and Shinzo Abe exchanged views on the world's current challenges and dangers and on the need to strengthen efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and preserving world peace.

The meeting concluded with both leaders expressing their wish and confidence that Prime Minister Abe's

visit will contribute to stronger relations of friendship and cooperation between Japan and Cuba.

The Japanese Premier arrived in Cuba on Thursday after participating at the 71 Session of the UN General Assembly in New York. This is the first visit to Cuba by a Japanese Prime Minister.

Japan and Cuba had recently signed an accord to restructure the mid and long-term debt of Cuba with Japan, an action that is expected to boost the funding of development projects in Cuba.

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