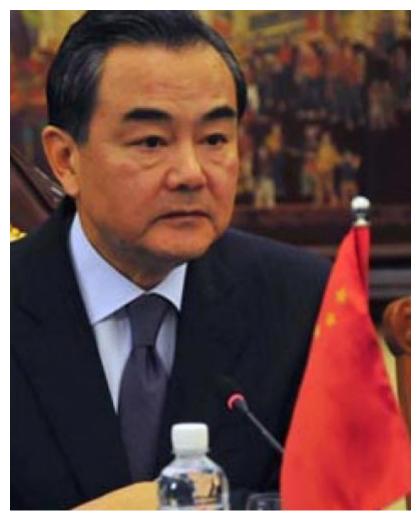
China Optimistic about Relations with Latin America



Beijing, March 8 (RHC) China's foreign minister Wang Yi said in Beijing on Saturday that he is very optimistic about his country's new relations with Latin America and the Caribbean and he added that this year offers new opportunities to develop such links.

Wang Yi said that China's president Xi Jinping will attend the summit of the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) to take place in June in the Brazilian city of Fortaleza and that he will also visit other countries of the region, according to PL news agency.

The top Chinese diplomat said that efforts are underway to launch the China-Latin America and Caribbean forum this year, which was agreed to during the recent summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), held January in Havana.

Analysts in Beijing said that the new forum will be a platform to reinforce cooperation relations between China and this part of the world. "We will work in 2014 to hold the first ministerial meeting," said Wang Yi and

added that the forum will constitute an important advancement in relations between China and Latin American and Caribbean countries.

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