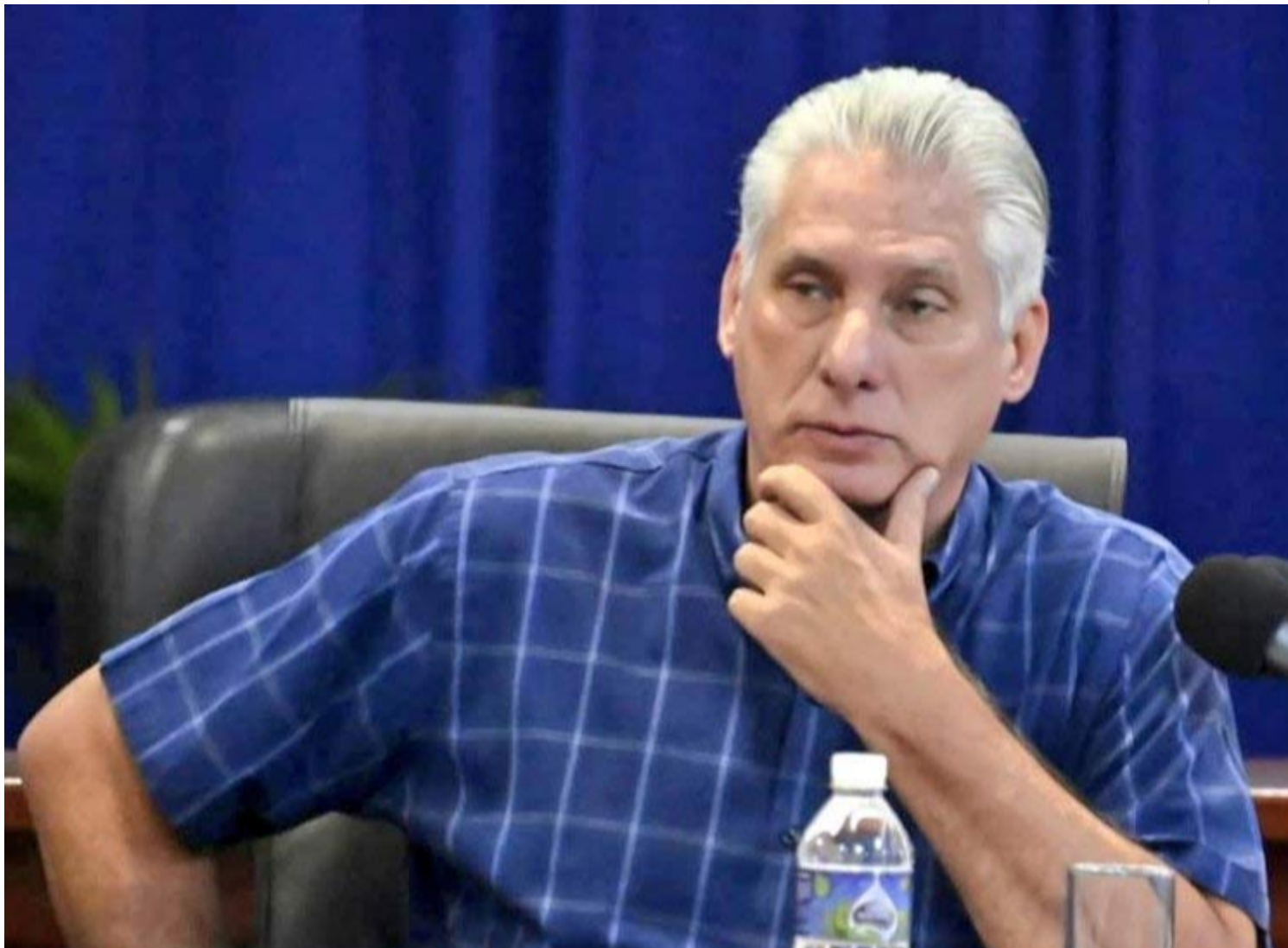


# *Cuban president insists on the importance of local food production*

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Díaz-Canel argued that one of the main problems at the country's level is in the production of milk.

Havana, May 12 (RHC)-- The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba (CC-PCC) and President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel insisted Friday in Matanzas on the vital importance of local food production.

The president said that agro-industrial enterprises and the entities of each municipality directly linked to food production need more impulses and better contracts to stimulate producers to meet the current demand for various items.

"We must maximize the role of local companies in order to achieve food sovereignty in the municipalities. In Matanzas there are results but they are still discrete in correspondence with the potential of the province," he said.

Díaz-Canel argued that one of the main problems at the country level is the production of milk, an issue also with difficulties in Matanzas territory and on which it is necessary to work hard in order to reduce imports, because it demands significant amounts of money for the national economy.

The president reaffirmed that the U.S. blockade will not cease, "therefore, in every corner of Cuba we must make every effort to move forward with work from the base to stimulate production in order for the people to acquire food with better quality and lower prices," he said.

For his part, the governor of Matanzas, Mario Sabines, said that the companies in the province are adopting measures for the collection of income.

He commented that 12 thousand hectares of land have been handed over for efficient management and commercial fairs are held as priority tasks aimed at food production and presence.

Meanwhile, Cuba's Prime Minister Manuel Marrero Cruz stressed the importance of the sense of opportunity when establishing commercial alliances, complying with production delivery dates, checking them systematically and establishing plans according to real needs.

The Head of Government pointed out that the contexts are very difficult, so it is urgent to develop actions from the municipalities to satisfy the needs of the people.

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