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**Cuba and Portugal Extol Strength of their Relations**

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Cuban and Portuguese foreign ministers, Bruno Rodriguez and Augusto Santos Silva, respectively, extolled today the strength of their bilateral relations in all areas, by means of a free-flowing exchange between both countries.

Santos Silva and Rodriguez ratified their wish to continue consolidating those links, during a meeting in Lisbon, as part of the official visit to this Iberian country by the head of the Cuban diplomacy.

Both foreign ministers reviewed the issues on the bilateral agenda, with emphasis on the political, diplomatic, cultural and trade areas, through exchange of delegations, the signing of new agreements and the increase of trade, investment and tourist influx.

According to the Cuban embassy in this capital, the ministers dealt with issues of common interest about the current international situation, and agreed on calling very positive the relations between their respective countries.

Rodriguez thanked Portugal's favorable vote to the Cuban resolution for the lifting of the economic, financial and trade blockade of Cuba by the United States.

Besides, he highlighted the contribution by Portugal to the progress of the relations between Cuba and the European Union, making possible the signing of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement in December, 2016, according to the Cuban embassy.

During his stay in Lisbon until Thursday, the Cuban foreign minister will develop a working program that includes meetings at the Portuguese parliament headquarters, the source added.