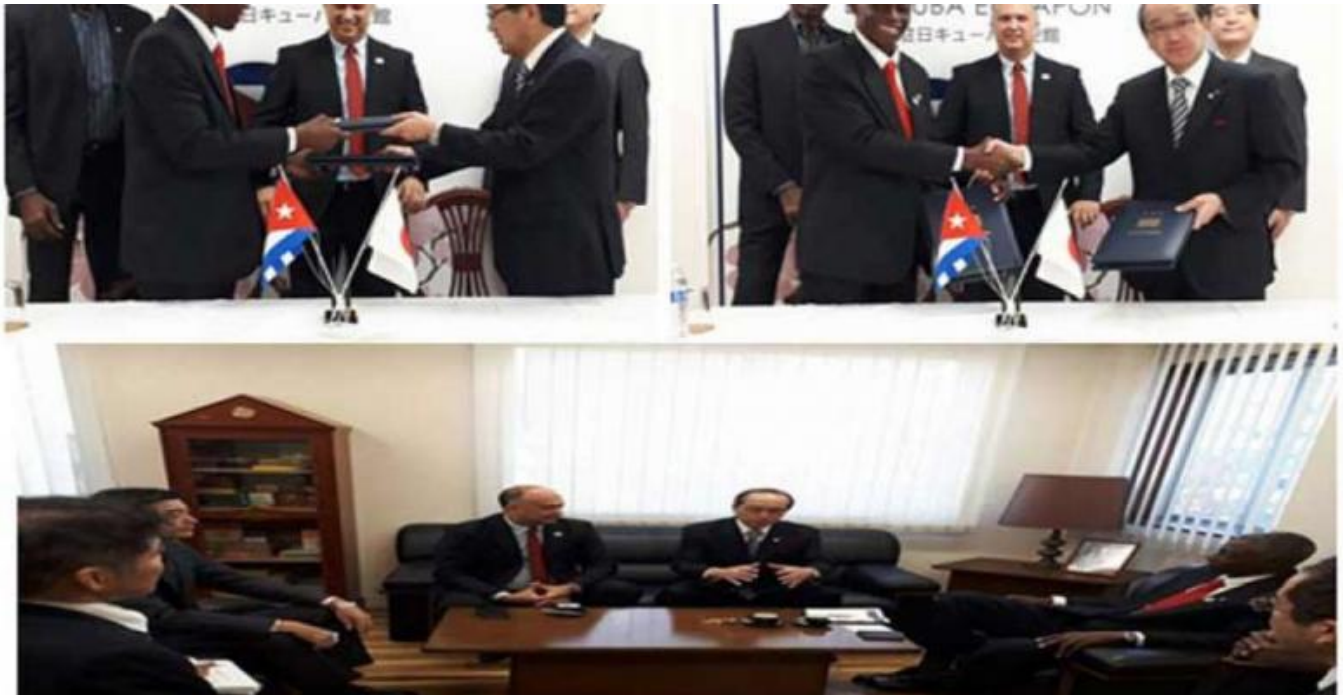

Cuban Athletes Will Train in Japan for 2020 Olympic Games

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Cuba will have volleyball and baseball training camps in Japan with a view to the 2020 Olympic Games, Japanese sports authorities and a delegation from the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation (INDER) agreed here Saturday after fruitful negotiations.

According to the Embassy of Cuba in Japan, the Sendai Ikuei Gakuen School and the local governments of Sendai and Tagajyo, will welcome the athletes of these disciplines.

The Cuban delegation, headed by the President of the Cuban Olympic Committee and first Vice President of INDER, Roberto Leon Richards, signed other similar agreements with several Japanese localities, among them the city of Hiroshima.

The mayor of that city, Kazumi Matsui, expressed his satisfaction for hosting the Cuban athletes, and commented on the great sympathy and admiration that prevails among the inhabitants of the city towards the Cuban people, as well as the pleasant memory of the historic visit of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in 2003.

For his part, Leon Richards, thanked the support of the authorities of Hiroshima

for the preparation of Cuban athletes. He also held a meeting with the minister in charge of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, Yoshitaka Sakurada, who also serves as vice president of the Japan-Cuba Parliamentary Friendship Group.

Sakurada spoke of the importance of cooperating with Cuba, considered a world sporting power, to achieve success of the upcoming games.
