

## MALAYSIA AND CUBA TO ENHANCE RELATIONS

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Cuba, which started diplomatic relations with Malaysia in 1975, is determined to enhance bilateral relations, pending their 40th anniversary of friendship next year, Cuban Embassy Charge D' Affairs Yanila Reyes Paret said.

She said that the cooperation between the two countries could be expanded to various fields such as health, tourism and education.

In tourism for example, citizens of both countries should take advantage of the fact that no visas were required to visit each other's countries, she told Bernama after opening The Cuban Art Exhibition "Connections 5" here.

"We have enjoyed good relationship with Malaysia so far. Currently our cooperation are limited in biotechnology and culture. I believe we can explore other sectors in the future," she said.

Paret also noted that Malaysia would be the Asean Chair next year and that Malaysia together with other Asean countries could initiate moves to explore business opportunities in Cuba.

According to Paret, with the new foreign investment law passed by Cuba's National Assembly in March, foreign companies could now enjoy better benefits in tax exemption and other facilities.

Speaking on the exhibition, she said that "Connections 5" brought together artworks from five Dominguez family members - Nelson Dominguez, Flora Fong, Li Dominguez, Liang Dominguez and Neslon Gabriel Dominguez.

Paret said that the acceptance of Malaysians towards Cuban arts were overwhelming as they celebrate the difference and uniqueness of Cuban paintings and sculpture.

She highlighted that since 2004, Cuban artists had been exhibiting their art in Malaysia through private gallery besides taking part in the Art Expo Malaysia 2014, last month.



The "Connections 5" exhibition is held till Oct 12, at the City Art Gallery, The Ampwalk, Jalan Ampang, from 11am until 6pm with Li, here to represent the rest of the family members.