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**Cuba Supports Foreign Entrepreneurs Ahead of Aggressive US Escalation**

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Official records revealed on Wednesday that foreign entrepreneurs can count on all Cuban government support to counteract any attempt at harming their businesses following the activation of Title III of the Helms-Burton Act.

Antonio Carricarte, Vice Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment stated so during a work meeting with representatives of branches of foreign companies in the island and the diplomatic corps accredited in this capital.

He added that recently, the US government has given another twist to its anti-Cuban policy by enabling title III of the Helms-Burton Act.

He set out that despite the adverse outlook, Cuba works with determination to facilitate trade relations abroad and open up new possibilities for foreign investment.

If the US blockade against Cuba would not exist, and it already accumulates a cost higher than 134 billion dollars calculated at current prices, the social and commercial successes achieved by Cuba would have been higher, Carricarte underscored.

On the other hand, the director general of the US Directorate of the Cuban Foreign Ministry, Carlos Fernandez de Cossio, assured that the new aggressive escalation against the island harms both State and non-State businesses.

The sudden interruption of traveling from the United States to Cuba, specifically the ban on

cruise ships transporting visitors to this destination, means a strong blow to such industry, he stressed.

At the meeting, held in the distinguished National Hotel of this capital, commercial representatives of Caribbean, European and Asian companies condemned the US hostility and restated their intention to go up trade links with Cuba.

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