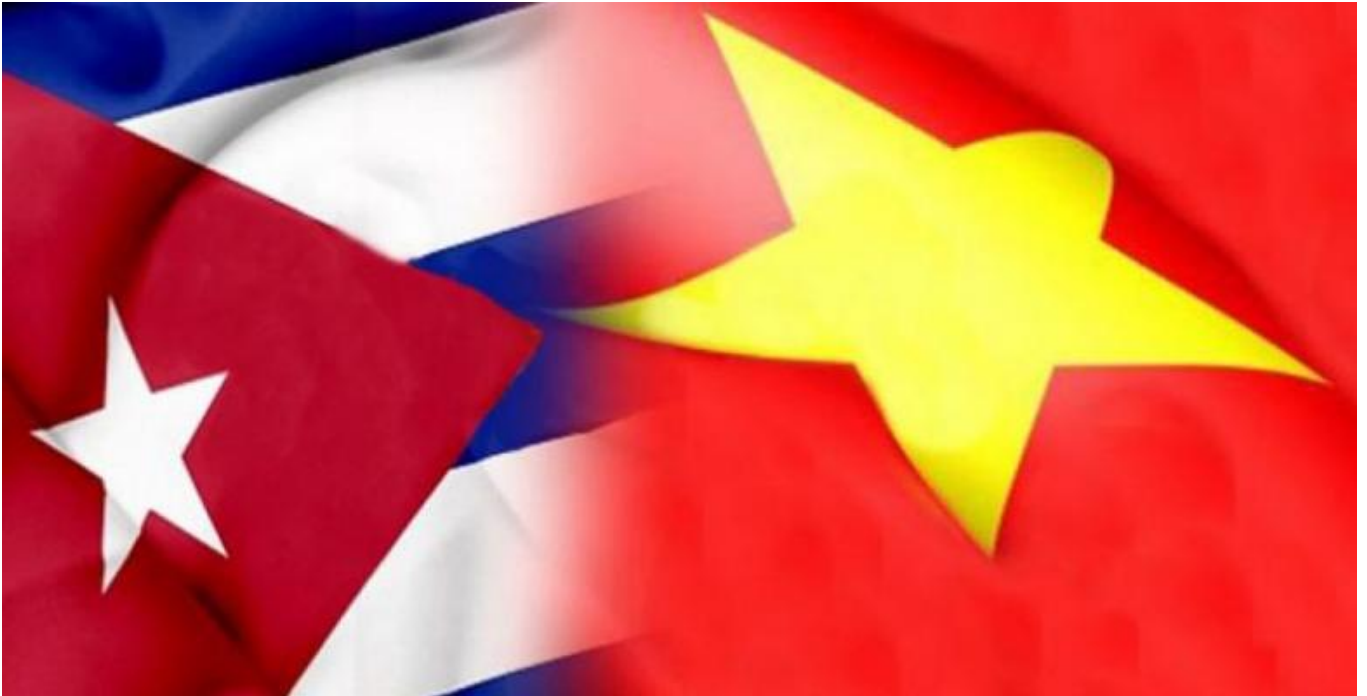

Vietnam will continue supporting Cuba

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Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc said today that his country will continue supporting Cuba to overcome difficulties, particularly in the provision of food and the use of its development potential.

The pronouncement came during the reception in Hanoi to Army Corps General Alvaro Lopez Miera, first vice minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR).

According to Prensa Latina (PL) News Agency, Nguyen Xuan Phuc pointed out that his country has always been against the US blockade on the Caribbean island and will maintain that position.

He added that Vietnam closely follows each step forward in Cuba and will be faithful to the relations of fraternal friendship sown by Ho Chi Minh and Fidel Castro, which is cultivated today by the two Communist Parties, armies and peoples.

For his part, the head of the FAR General Staff praised the progress of the Asian nation and expressed Cuba's interest in taking advantage of its experiences in economics and in specific areas such as food production.

During his stay in Vietnam, Lopez Miera also met with the Minister of National Defense, General Ngo Xuan Lich, and with Colonel General Phan Van Giang, 1st Deputy Minister of that portfolio and current Chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army.

As part of these exchanges, both parties discussed issues related to defense cooperation for this and the coming years, as well as the political, economic and social situation of each country.

