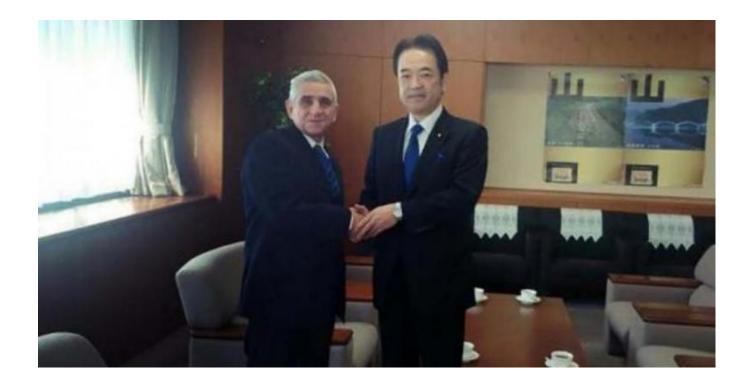


Cuba and Japan want to expand cooperation in energy sector

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Alfredo Lopez Valdes, Cuban Minister of Energy and Mines, who is on a working visit to Japan, called for expanding cooperation between the two countries in this sector.

The Cuban minister, who concludes his tour tomorrow, was received by Tsuneo Kitamura, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, with whom he held a fruitful exchange.

Both sides confirmed the smooth progress of bilateral relations, the new opportunities in the economic and trade ties, especially in the energy sector, and expressed the will of the two governments to join efforts to broaden and deepen the ties between the two countries.

In the Cuba-Japan Economic Conference, Lopez spoke with officials of the International Cooperation Agency of Japan, where he reviewed the partnership projects the two nations are currently developing.

Likewise, the Cuban minister met with representatives of some Japanese companies linked to the energy sector, which work on various projects in Havana.