More Cubans Living Abroad, Visiting

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The Cuban tourism industry which some consider to be the most efficient of the harsh local economy is receiving significant support from Cubans living abroad and coming to the island.

There were 623,831 Cubans settled abroad their homeland who were visiting in 2019, according to official statistics released.

From this amount 552,816 came from the United States, according to a message on Twitter of the Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez.

The official saw in that result "evidence of the strengthening of ties of Cuba with its compatriots."

Around the announcement, the official media also stressed that the high statistics was attained despite the measures taken by the United States government in order to reduce the arrivals of tourists to Cuba.

The visits of Cubans residing abroad to their homeland have as main motive to meet with relatives and spend free time. Authorities also keep permanent contact with those citizens.

On the arrivals the director of Consular Affairs and Cuban Residents Abroad at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ernesto Soberón published that in the last six years more than three million Cubans living abroad entered the country.

President Miguel Díaz-Canel confirmed with a phrase that policy by saying that "we count on

you. We are Cuba."

 The official newspaper Granma described the visits thanks to an attitude of "commitment and activism" of more than 160 Cuban associations in 79 countries with whom "unbreakable ties" are strengthened.

 With that objective was already announced a new *La Nación y Emigración* Conference next April.

 In order to make the trips of Cubans living abroad to the island normal again, important changes took place in the Cuban rules and laws, including immigration reform seven years ago that even opened more doors to the so-called "repatriation".

 Consequently, living behind an era during which ties of Cubans with much of their communication abroad were very complex based on ideological motivations.