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Secretary General of CARICOM Advocates for Consolidation of the Co-operation in the Caribbean.

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Cuba, December 8, 2014. The Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Irwin LaRocque said in the inaugural ceremony of the Fifth CARICOM-Cuba Summit that this event is a testimony of the solidarity and fraternal ties among the Caribbean peoples.

The high-ranking official noted that the establishment of diplomatic relations by the governments of Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago with Cuba, showed the stand of the Caribbean nations against the blockade imposed by the United States government and the respect to the self-determination of nations. We hope, he said, that the unfair economic and commercial blockade against Cuba ends.

The Secretary-General of the CARICOM also stressed that the region is discussing a strategy for sustainable development with the support of Cuba, and he added that “we are committed with insular countries to face climatic change”.

This Summit focuses in increasing co-operation and tightening the relations among the countries of the Caribbean. Likewise; they are going to discuss specific issues of importance for the region such as trade, agriculture and health, said LaRocque in their speech.

In his speech, the Secretary-General called Cuba's co-operation outstanding. In this regard, he underlined the presence of Cuban doctors in West Africa to fight Ebola, and their active role in the prevention of this disease in the Caribbean region.