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**Vietnam, Cuba To Boost Defence Ties**

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Officers from Vietnam's Defence Ministry and Cuba's Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (MINFAR) have agreed to further step up the bond between the two agencies in a more practical and effective manner, Vietnam News Agency (VNA) reports.

During a defence policy dialogue in Havana, Thursday, the two sides discussed orientations for their future links, towards the signing of a cooperation plan in the time ahead.

They also expressed their joy at the fruitful defence connection between the two nations in recent times, hoping that the links will become a vital factor in the time-honoured Vietnam-Cuba relations.

Vietnam's Deputy Defence Minister, Senior Lieutenant General Nguyen Chi Vinh affirmed that Vietnam continuously wishes to bolster friendship and cooperation between the two nations, particularly between the armed forces and people-to-people activities.

Meanwhile, MINFAR Minister Senior Lieutenant General Leopoldo Cintra Frias, stressed that Cuba treasures its friendship with Vietnam.

He took the occasion to convey his invitation to Vietnamese Defence Minister General Ngo Xuan Lich to visit Cuba.

Apart from discussing measures to boost bilateral defence ties, the officers discussed matters of mutual interest and the impact of global and regional issues on their respective country's security and defence.