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Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop recently visited Cuba to forge stronger political and economic ties with the island nation. Ms Bishop met with Cuba's leaders to discuss the Cuban Government's economic reform program and the opportunities for Australian businesses. According to Ms Bishop, the visit identified a number of sectors with potential for collaboration, including mining and exploration. Ms Bishop signed an MOU on enhancing diplomatic consultations and discussed Australia's growing cultural, sporting and scientific links with Cuba.

(Ref: [http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_170702.aspx](http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170702.aspx))