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havana, feb 8, reuter -- a joint communique of the cuban communist party and the zanu-patriotic front of zimbabwe called for +the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between the two nations,+ granma reported today.

the newspaper reported that a delegation headed by jorge risquet, member of the politburo of the communist party of cuba, met with a delegation headed by r.c. hove, under-secretary of foreign affairs and minister of the interior of zimbabwe.

the cuban delegation also included general abelardo colome ibarra, deputy minister of the cuban armed forces and substitute member of the communist party's politburo.

the communique declared that the zanu-patriotic front +supported the sovereign decision of the people's republic of angola to request the collaboration of the cuban government in the economic, social and military spheres.+

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both delegations, the newspaper said, +condemned the systematic actions of aggression and sabotage committed by the apartheid regime of south africa against the front line states.+

the cuban delegation, the newspaper reported, +underscored the extraordinary and patriotic contribution made by the people of zimbabwe, headed by robert mugabe, to the movements of liberation of the continent and their meaningful support for the cause of national independence, self determination and progress of oppressed peoples all over the world.+

granma announced that the president of zimbabwe, robert mugabe, accepted an invitation from cuban president fidel castro to make an official visit to cuba. it said that no date was set for the visit.

--reuter lem/syl