The People's Assembly

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The 10<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the National Assembly of the People's Power will be formed today. This is the final stage of a democratic process where new lawmakers were elected. The results of the General Elections ratified the trust and support of the majority of the people to a system that is not perfect, but meets the demands and fair dreams of its citizens.

The president of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, has pointed out several times the essentially popular nature of the Cuban Parliament. The people is represented in the Parliament, as its varied membership portrays the diversity of the nation. The presence of young people and women is highlighted, not as a result of demagogy, but as a natural expression of the impact of sectors that are underrated by other political models.

This first five-years term which ended now was headed by a new generation of leaders, mostly born or trained after the triumph of the Revolution. It implied significant legislative work, which included the application of a constitutional reform, the result of determined popular participation.

It has been (is being) a tough and demanding stage for the entire nation. But the trust that the people have placed in the Cuban model is an incentive to continue building the social project to which the people aspire.

The new legislature that starts working today faces huge challenges ahead. The continuity of the Revolution is not an abstract concept: it must be achieved in a model of collective leadership in constant dialogue with the citizens. The true democracy, which is the active involvement of the people. This is not an Assembly of elites, detached from the masses. This is, and will be, the people's Assembly. Hence, lawmakers must work for the people.

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