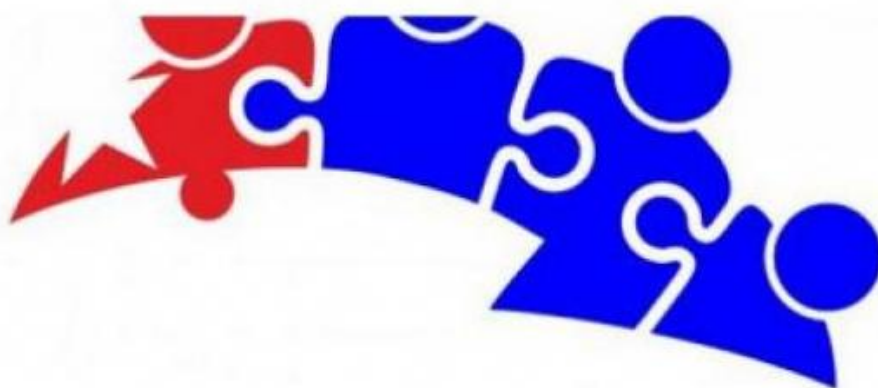

People's Power

By: CubaSi Editorial Staff

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proceso de **RENDICIÓN DE CUENTA**

The process of accountability of delegates to their electors, to begin on September 20 until November 15 in Cuba, represents a key moment in the strengthening of participatory democracy in the country. This is the first process of this kind in the current mandate of Municipal Assemblies, convened on June 17 by the Council of State. This is a practice where delegates must explain to their constituents the status of issues raised, what has been done so far, and the possible ways to continue advancing in solving them.

It's an exercise that goes beyond a simple formality. Accountability allows us to measure the pulse of the management of delegates, who represent the popular will in the municipal government bodies. It's essential that this process does not become a bureaucratic procedure or a routine without content. An honest and deep dialogue must be established between the delegates and their constituents.

In this regard, one of the most important aspects of accountability is that the delegate is not there to promise immediate solutions or to solve all the problems on his own. His authority and legitimacy reside in his skill to adequately represent the interests of his constituents and channel their demands to the appropriate authorities. The role of the delegate is not that of a miracle worker, but rather that of a speaker between the citizens and the administrative bodies.

The delegate who has worked in close communication with his community should not face surprises during the accountability process. If he has fulfilled his role correctly, the proposals of constituents will be a continuation of the previous dialogues, which will allow him to present viable alternatives and paths to solutions, even when the ultimate responsibility for solving the problems falls on other authorities.

It's essential that each accountability meeting focuses on the concrete reality of each community, on its specific problems and on the solutions that can arise from joint work. Transparency in management, clarity in the explanation of the limits and scope of a delegate's work, and the commitment of authorities to their constituents are fundamental elements for this democratic exercise to have the desired impact.

It's also important that voters understand the process in all its magnitude. Accountability should not be seen as an opportunity for retaliations, but as a space for constructive debate and joint analysis of the problems and their possible solutions. This approach, of collaboration and mutual commitment, is what really strengthens the framework in communities.

Along with voters, institutions must pay attention to what's presented in this process. Accountability cannot be just mere talk that fade away at the end of meetings. It's crucial that problems pointed out be evaluated by the corresponding bodies, with a full plan that allows for their effective solution.

The upcoming process constitutes an opportunity to revitalize popular participation in Cuba, a participation that must be critical, active and organized. If done properly, it will not only strengthen confidence in the delegates and in the municipal structures, but will consolidate the exercise of democracy as a continuous and transformative process in the life of communities.

Finally, accountability must be seen as a tool for the improvement of a political and social project. It's not enough to do it as a symbolic act; it must contribute to the development of a more efficient, committed management closer to the real needs of the people. Only this way will delegates be consolidated as true guarantors of popular power, in particularly demanding times for the country.

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