



The World Supports Cuba and Rejects the U.S. Blockade



P. 4

Cuba

Atypical National Uprising Day



P. 3

Health & Science

Abdala and Soberana 02, Bets Against COVID-19



P. 5

World

World Economy: Certainties and Uncertainties



P. 9

Sports

For Glory in Tokyo 2020



P. 15

Strives to Recover the Tourism Industry



Varadero, one of the destinations for tourists in Cuba. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.

By Francisco **MENÉNDEZ**

HAVANA.-Cuban authorities make great efforts to recover the tourism industry in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic and under strict health protocols in hotels already in operation, especially those located at the Varadero and Jardines del Rey resorts. Official reports indicate that 64,712 foreign tourists visited the island in the first four months of 2021, which represents six percent of the 983,099 who did over the year of 2020.

These figures differ even more from those of the last pre-pandemic season (2019), when Cuba welcomed over 1.9 million international visitors.

The number of international visitors to Cuba decreased by 94 percent from January to April 2021 – Cuba's high tourist season – in comparison to those who arrived in 2020. January and February 2020 witnessed a normal arrival of tourists, but March was seriously affected and the country was

totally closed to tourism in April because of COVID-19.

The Cuban National Statistics and Information Office informed that the abovementioned figure represents 918,386 visitors less in comparison to the previous year.

The report indicated that more than half the tourists who have arrived to Cuba in the course of this year (33,592) are Russians, followed by Cubans resident abroad, Germans, Spanish and Canadian.

The island closed for the first four months of 2019 with a 7.2 percent increase in relation to the first four months of 2018.

Of the 1.9 million tourists received in 2019 in the said period, over 650,000 were Canadians – 10 times more than this year because of the restrictions imposed by Canada, which suspended flights to the Caribbean.

At present, Cuba receives four flights a week from Russia; thus, every day of the week, there are over 2,400 Russian tourists, stated Cuban Minister of Tourism Juan Carlos García, who participated in the MITT 2021 Tourism Fair held last March in Moscow.

García recalled that all visitors undergo a PCR test upon entry to the Cuban territory, where there are several safe destinations for tourists, such as Varadero, Cayo Coco, Cayo Santa María and Cayo Largo, he affirmed.

The health protocol in place establishes that travelers coming to Cuba need to show a negative PCR test – conducted 72 hours before their arrival, maximum – and undergo a second test when entering the country, on the border. Tourists should then spend quarantine in a hotel until they test negative in a third PCR test, which is conducted five days after their arrival. Cubans can choose between staying at a paid hotel or a free, state isolation center, where they also have to wait for the result of the third test.

For the past few weeks, Cuba has reported over one thousand daily cases of COVID-19. The country suspended commercial and charter flights in April 2020, to stop the spread of the disease, and reopened its airports in October 2020.

Since January, the number of flights coming from the United States, Mexico, Panama, the Bahamas, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Colombia have reduced to the minimum.

Before the spread of the pandemic, tourism was Cuba's second official source of currency income – behind the provision of professional services abroad – and contributed about 10 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The country hoped to welcome over 4.5 million international visitors in 2020 and revert the 9.3 percent decrease of 2019, when 4.2 million tourists traveled to the island – 436,352 less in comparison to 2018, according to official data.

An internationally renowned health system, in addition to several vaccine candidates against COVID-19, consolidate Cuba's recent bet to recover its tourist industry.

As Minister Juan Carlos García has highlighted, Cuba is one of the few destinations that has a doctor, a nurse and an epidemiology expert in each hotel facility.

The country also created the 'Tourism, more hygienic and safe' certification, which is granted by a commission composed of the ministries of Health and Tourism and which is essential to start operating, in addition to being a guarantee for visitors, the minister concluded.



Key Coco, in Jardines del Rey.



THE Havana Reporter YOUR SOURCE OF NEWS & MORE

SOCIETY • HEALTH & SCIENCE • POLITICS • CULTURE
ENTERTAINMENT • PHOTO FEATURE • ECONOMY
SPORTS • AND MORE

President: Luis Enrique González
Information: Vice President: Moisés Pérez Mok
Editorial: Vice President: Lianet Arias
Editorial Director: Mariela Pérez Valenzuela
Chief Editor: Ilsa Rodríguez Santana
English Editor: Mitra Ghaffari
Translation: Dayamí Interian/ Yanelly Interián

Art Direction: Anathais Rodríguez
Graphic Designers: Fernando Fernández Tito
Chief Graphic Editor: Francisco González
Assistant Staff: Yaimara Portuondo
Advertising: René García
Circulation: Commercial Department
Printing: Prensa Latina

Publisher: Agencia Informativa Latinoamericana
Prensa Latina, S.A.
Calle E, esq. 19 No. 454, Vedado, La Habana-4, Cuba
Telephone: (53)7838-3496 / 7832-3578
Fax: (53)7833-3068 E-mail: thr@prensa-latina.cu

Atypical National Uprising Day



The group known as Generation of the Centenary attacked the Moncada Garrison. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.

By Massiel MATOS

HAVANA.- Cuba marks its National Uprising Day on July 26, without the regular masses usually in attendance.

Three months after the 8th Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), which marked a generational change in the country's leadership, Cubans recall the feat of a group of young people led by Fidel Castro, that in 1953 rose up against the government of dictator Fulgencio Batista.

Inspired by the ideas of National Hero José Martí and the year marking the 100th anniversary of his birth, the group known as Generation of the Centenary attacked the Moncada Garrison, the second most important military fortress at the time.

Although the action failed in terms of strategy, the event was a political victory because it marked the beginning of a new period in Cuba's pro-independence process, which finished on January 1, 1959 with the revolutionary triumph.

Each year Cubans celebrate the event with mass public gatherings headed by the country's leadership. However, these celebrations have been moved to virtual spaces due to the pandemic.

For this 68th anniversary and for second consecutive time, the acts regularly held in public plazas to recall the Moncada events will, once again, be replaced by initiatives on digital platforms.

The homage also comes in times when, for the first time since 1959, historic leadership is not ruling the country, after it was agreed to transfer responsibilities during the PCC Congress last April.

Thus, it is up to new generations, headed by the First Secretary of the PCC, Miguel Díaz-Canel, to preserve that legacy and lead the country's future in the middle of complex circumstances.

In a context marked by COVID-19 and the tightening of the U.S. blockade, the government is seeking alternatives to mitigate the impact of Washington's hostile policy and face the effects of the pandemic with its own resources.

"We are not satisfied with keeping the country's potential forces to just survive. We hope to resist ingeniously, without renouncing to our development plans," pointed out Díaz-Canel, who is also the President of the Republic.

Examples of that are the five vaccine candidates being produced in the country to fight COVID-19, thanks to which the entire Cuban population will be immunized this year, local health authorities sustained.

Amid these circumstances, Cuba welcomes the celebration of the aforementioned day, which will always be great motivation, as stated by the Cuban president during the last public act in 2019 in Bayamo, the capital of the eastern Province of Granma.



The celebrations have been moved to virtual spaces due to the pandemic.

PRENSA LATINA

Your best source of news

You can now get up to date news headlines from the PRENSA LATINA NEWS AGENCY by sending an SMS with the letters PL to 8100.

Once confirmed, you will receive 4 x 250 spaced message updates per day.

A 30 day subscription costs only 25 CUP, deducted from your balance and which should be renewed before your expiry date.

If you encounter any problems with the service, you can call our Helpline on 72047397

For further details see <http://www.entumovil.cu>, www.prensa-latina.cu or call the Desoft Customer Care Line at 7 832 3501



SMS

For 4 News Headlines per day for just \$25.00 CUP / month, Send an SMS with the letters PL to 8100

The World Supports Cuba and Rejects the U.S. Blockade

By IbisFRADE

HAVANA.- Once again, the world supported Cuba in its demand to put an end to the blockade imposed by the United States, as the United Nations General Assembly approved a resolution demanding that the unilateral policy be lifted.

In a vote of high consensus, the document demanding the end of the economic, commercial and financial siege was approved on June 23 with the overwhelming support of 184 member States.

Colombia, Ukraine and Brazil abstained from voting, while the United States and Israel voted against the end of that hostile policy, thus being isolated in their endeavor to defend a mechanism that causes economic shortages to the Cuban people and damages third parties because of its extraterritorial nature.

For 29 consecutive years since 1992, Cuba categorically demanded the lifting of the blockade imposed by Washington for 62 years at the main UN body.

More than 30 nations and international organizations—including the Non-Aligned Movement, the Group of 77 plus China and the Caribbean Community—denounced the damages caused by that policy and demanded its lifting.

Cuba demands to be left in peace, to live without a blockade, and calls for an end to the persecution of commercial and financial relations with the rest of the world, stated Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs Bruno Rodríguez in his speech at the General Assembly.



In the United States cities such as Miami, Washington DC, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Nueva York, ... among others, joined the solidarity call of the Bridges of Love project. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.

He also added that the said unilateral mechanism has even come to discredit and isolate the United States.

The minister appreciated the signs of international solidarity with Cuba and the actions organized in different continents to demand the end of the U.S. blockade.

It is encouraging to have the support of thousands of people who, throughout the world, gathered to reject this siege, he stressed. Rodríguez also stated his gratitude for the "solidarity of our fellow countrymen and women and our Cuban friends in different latitudes, which we highly appreciate," including those that, with great effort and in spite of the opposition of their Government, have come from the United States itself.

Several Cubans, who ennoble the flag of the lonely star, are included among those persons, he said.



Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs Bruno Rodríguez with the Secretary General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres.

The Cuban minister called for an end to manipulation, discrimination and the obstacles to relations between Cubans living in the United States and their relatives in Cuba, the country they were born in.

Many people pragmatically say, even within the U.S. government, that the blockade should be lifted because it is an anachronistic and inefficient policy that has not and will not meet its objective, the minister highlighted.

High representatives of different nations condemned, at the General Assembly debate, the increase of the hostile policy and the unilateral coercive measures that Washington promoted against Cuba in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Several speakers also highlighted Cuba's solidarity during the health crisis and how in spite of difficulties, this Caribbean nation has been able to develop its own vaccine candidates with great success.

It was precisely because of the pandemic that the resolution project entitled "Need to end the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba" was not presented in 2020 but instead in June of this year.

From April to December 2020, the blockade caused damages to Cuba amounting to 3,586.9 million dollars, which in addition

to the damages caused in the previous period, amount to a total of 9,157.2 million dollars, from April 2019 to December 2020. The damages accumulated over more than 60 years of application amount currently to 147,853.3 million dollars. If depreciation of the dollar against the value of gold in the international market is considered, the blockade has caused quantifiable damages amounting to more than one trillion 377,998,000 dollars.

Since the beginning of this year, several cities around the world have welcomed solidarity actions and, marches in rejection of the U.S. blockade.

In the United States in particular, cities such as Miami, Washington DC, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Seattle, Nueva York, Albany, Connecticut and Milwaukee, among others, joined the solidarity call of the Bridges of Love project.

Under the hashtags #NoMasBloqueo (#NoMoreBlockade) and #PuentesDeAmor (#BridgesofLove), several videos and images of those initiatives can be seen on social media platforms. Leader of the New York-New Jersey Cuba Sí Coalition Ike Nahem told The Havana Reporter that caravans against the U.S. siege have reached the entire world, including African, Asian and European nations.

ALIMPORT
Empresa Comercializadora de Alimentos

"Alimentación Para Todos" / "Food For All"

60 ANIVERSARIO
ALIMPORT
EMPRESA COMERCIALIZADORA DE ALIMENTOS

ALIMPORT, is an integrating Company of the **Foreign Trade Business Group GECOMEX**, with over 50 years of experience in the Activity of Foreign Trade and it takes care of the execution of Operations of Importation of foodstuffs. Raw Materials and other Consumer Goods for the Wholesale Commercialization.

ALIMPORT commercialises a wide range of food products and raw materials that satisfy the demand of our national clients. To sign a contract with our company, you must be registered in our Suppliers Portfolio.

CONTACTENDOS / CONTACT US

Dirección / Address:
Infanta # 16, 3er. Piso, e/ 23 y Humboldt, Vedado, Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana, Cuba.

Correo / Email:
alimport@alimport.com.cu

Sitio Web / Website:
www.alimport.com.cu

Abdala and Soberana 02, Bets Against COVID-19

By Nara**ROMERO**

HAVANA.- With an efficacy of 92.28 percent, Abdala – a vaccine candidate against COVID-19 developed by the Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center (CIGB) – is closer to being the first immunogen produced in Cuba and Latin America against the disease.

Such results were evident in the medication's three-dose scheme, for which this vaccine candidate met the requirements established by the World Health Organization (WHO) to become a vaccine, scientists explained.

The other vaccine candidate, Soberana 02 – produced by the Finlay Institute of Vaccines (IFV) – reached a 62 percent of efficacy in its two-dose immunization scheme, conducted during phase III of trial.

In the strategy to develop vaccine candidates against COVID-19, clinical trials, intervention studies and sanitary interventions were conducted throughout the island, as a result of which over 5,676,000 doses have been administered.

Recent statistics indicate that over 2,696,000 Cuban people have been administered at least one dose of the candidates; over 1,973,744 volunteers have been administered two doses, and over 1,000,000 completed the full scheme.

In addition, a clinical trial recently started in the pediatric demographic, with two doses of Soberana 02 plus one dose



More than a million Cubans received all the doses of Abdala and Soberana 02. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.

of Soberana Plus. In this group, over 2,400,000 children and youth under the age of 18 are included.

CIGB will submit to the regulatory authority – the Center for the State Control of Medication, Equipment and Medical Devices (CECMED) – another trial for children and adolescents with Abdala, while the intra-nasal proposal against COVID-19, Mambisa, will start phase I/II of trial with younger patients.

These results are good news for Cuba, a country that faces a complex epidemiological situation because of the high autochthonous transmission of this disease, with over 188,000

patients confirmed by the end of June this year – the worst since the start of the pandemic (March 2020), according to the Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP).

The over 1,000 new cases of infection and 10 deceased people on average per day, as well as the over 3,000 cases confirmed per day, are alarming figures that call for higher control in the fulfillment of the measures established to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

MINSAP experts constantly warn about the importance of looking after children under the age of 20, a group with over 25,000 sick people since the start of the pandemic – and every day 206 patients are diagnosed on average. On June 29, authorities reported, for the first time, the death of a two-year old child in the Camagüey province.

On the other hand, the island continues to report a smaller number of imported cases, though these are equally important in the fight against the pandemic, thus the recent adoption of new measures in the isolation protocols for tourists and national travelers.

As of June 20, visitors arriving to Cuba through the Varadero or Cayo Coco airports will have to show a tourist or isolation package, as appropriate, before boarding their flight. As the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs indicated, these packages can be acquired through the tour operators that commercialize those destinations.

In relation to the Cuban people, they will have to remain in isolation for seven days in tourist facilities of the province of arrival and pay for the package available at the national travel agencies before going abroad.

For Cuban residents who arrive through the Havana and Santiago de Cuba airports, regulations issued on June 5 remain in effect, which establish that they will also have to remain in isolation for seven days and will only pay for the transportation costs from the airport to the isolation center and back to their place of residence, in Cuban pesos.

www.prensa-latina.cu

At the service of truth

Multi-media agency with more than 40 correspondents and one hundred partners around the world.

Established in 1959

ANIVERSARIO 62 PRENSA LATINA

Twitter: @PrensaLatina_cu Facebook: @AgenciaPrensaLatinaOficial YouTube: PrensaLatinaTV

Instagram: @PrensaLatinaNoticias Telegram: tesorolatinol Twitter: @prensaLatinacuba



General Director of the Finlay Institute of Vaccines (IFV), Doctor Vicente Vérez.

Dance and Percussion

By Danay **GALLETI**

HAVANA.-Habana Compás Dance, a company created 20 years ago that promotes the fusion of Spanish dances and Afro-Cuban rhythms, performs contemporary percussion and dance.

Members of the Lizt Alfonso Dance Cuba came together in 2004 to create the company, conducted by dancer and choreographer Lilit Rivera. Although only four artists started, the company later included 14 youth, all of them trained in disciplines such as ballet and flamenco.

Once the Ministry of Culture endorsed the creation of the group, the company started its performances with both national and international repertoire, musical director Eduardo Córdoba Reyes told The Havana Reporter (THR).

"I enrolled four years later and realized that its members could play percussion instruments including the bongó, batá, tumbas, baquetas, etc. Then, I started teaching and combined both expressions, our hallmark of distinction and originality," said Córdoba, who is also a visual artist.

Walking sticks, castanets, high heels, fans and stools – designed by Córdoba – are part of the performances, and in recent years, a guitar, violin, bass, flute and piano were added, as well as a singer. The company is now composed of 25 members: 12 dancers, 7 musicians and the technical crew.

"When we were in Tampa, Florida, at the end of the show, the audience gave us a hearty ovation and shouted Viva Cuba! Something similar happened in Turkey, during our first tour; the audience danced and the welcome was exciting," regisseur Lisset Fleitas told THR.

In the United States, the artists performed Cuba, fusión y pasión (Cuba, fusion and passion), one of their most

renowned creations that lasts about two hours and combines pantomimes and native rhythms such as guaguancó, son, songó and bolero.

The Cuban company, which has also been welcomed in Mexico, Chile, Saint Kitts & Nevis and South Korea, also promotes the community project 'Dance and Percussion,' addressed to children over the age of five who also take part in the company's performances.

Fleitas explained that since 2005, they also conduct vocational workshops that allow them to give feedback and include children and adolescents from the Havana and Artemisa provinces.

Shekeres, claves and wooden boxes are also present in the pieces Ritmo (Rhythm), Guantanamera, Reto (Challenge), Bajo el signo del tambor (Under the Sign of the Drum) and in choreographies for themes such as Recoge la ropa y vete (Take Your Clothes and Leave), by Los Papines – a rumba group created in Havana in 1962 by brothers Luis, Alfredo, Jesús and Ricardo Abreu.

The Habana Compás members' training starts in the morning with physical preparation, dance and instruments performance; in the afternoon, they organize the staging of the choreographies and rehearsals.

During the performance season, they organize their order of appearance, position on the stage and time prior to warming-up. Before getting on stage, they follow a ritual: "we get together, pass on positive vibes and cheer each other on," Fleitas added.

According to the U.S. platform TripAdvisor, travelers acknowledge that the Cuban company as "a perfect ensemble," "a group of women who practice percussion since they are small and do a masterly work with perfect doses of Cubanness," and a "beautiful performance of colors and energy."



Sticks, castanets, high heels, fans and stools are part of the performances. **PHOTOS:** Prensa Latina.



The Habana Compás members' training starts in the morning with physical preparation, dance and instruments performance.

Havana's Chamber Orchestra Celebrates 15 Years of Success

By Claudia **HERNÁNDEZ**

HAVANA.- Havana's Chamber Orchestra (OCH) celebrated its 15th anniversary by closing a successful chapter of performances, which included staging in U.S. soil with international artists.

"It is a musical project that only includes string instruments, composed of 20 artists – mostly women – and is characterized by being a rigorous and high-quality ensemble," leader and current director of the group Daiana García told *The Havana Reporter*.

García has led the this team since 2011, a path she describes as challenging and joyful, because of the important achievements reached at national and international scenarios since she assumed the leadership of this band.

It seems that COVID-19 silenced all kinds of celebrations, but the orchestra did not remain silent and recently released a recorded concert with popular Cuban musicians, such as Haydée Milanés, Kelvis Ochoa, David Blanco, Luna Manzanares, the Buena Fe duet, Pepe Ordás and Rochy Ameneiro.



The orchestra is now working on its first phonogram, *Todo concuerda mejor* (It is a better coincidence). **PHOTO:** Prensa Latina.

The band was also accompanied on the piano by acclaimed and new figures such as Aldo López-Gavilán, Harold López-Nussa, Alejandro Falcón, Rodrigo García and Malva Rodríguez.

Other high-quality instrumentalists provided talent and life to the presentation, like Janio Abreu and Alejandro Calzadilla (clarinet); Ruy Adrián López-Nussa (drums); Julio César González (electric bass); Niurka

González (flute), and Tania Hasse (violin). Recorded at the Avenida Cinema, in Havana, the concert includes some of OCH's highlights from performances and is the result of the work of the Cuban Institute of Music, the National Popular Music Center and Fábrica de Arte Cubano (Cuban Art Factory).

OCH reached international summit at the New York Lincoln Center, on an invitation of multiple-time awardee, violinist Joshua Bell, during his 2017 live presentation with other Cuban artists.

This cultural exchange was the result of a period of easing of tensions in diplomatic relations between Washington and Havana during the administration of former president Barack Obama.

OCH's list of joint presentations includes performances with foreign instrumentalists Víctor Goines, Iván Lins and Jackson Browne, in addition to performances at the Napa Valley Festival, in California.

The orchestra is now working on its first phonogram, *Todo concuerda mejor* (It is a better coincidence), launched by the Colibrí record label and awarded the Cubadisco 2018 prize, while treasuring several audiovisual endeavors.

Havana's Chamber Orchestra comes up with new ideas and consolidates its excellent artist work, which has made it established itself among Cuba's most renowned bands in the field of symphonic music.

Cuban Doctors in South Africa

By Manuel VÁZQUEZ

PRETORIA.- When the first COVID-19 wave was about to begin in South Africa at the end of 2020, some 200 Cuban health specialists arrived in the country, risking their own lives together with the South African healthcare workers at the front line of the battle against the disease.

Shortly before, on March 31, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa had requested Cuban President Miguel Díaz Canel a health aid to fight COVID-19. The Cuban government replied positively to the request.

A brigade of the Henry Reeve International Contingent of Doctors specialized in Disaster Situations and Severe Epidemics thus traveled to southern Africa.

As a result, that mission, together with other actions, was giving continuity to Cuba's longstanding tradition of international medical cooperation, recalled Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, South African Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

"Cubans have always been there for us, ever since we were fighting for Independence," the minister said when she welcomed them.

"When we wanted to provide our people with the first health services right after the apartheid regime was defeated, the Cuban medical brigades were the first ones to come to South Africa in the 1990s," she noted.

"Years later, when the African continent was fighting Ebola, Cubans were once again by our side," the minister added. After their arrival in South Africa a year ago, the Cuban health professionals of the Henry Reeve Contingent were deployed in nine provinces, with a noticeable presence in those that had the biggest number of COVID-19 cases. They were also sent to regions with few health resources. Since the very beginning, its work included proving attention to patients in the front line (red zones, isolation centers etc.), training national professionals, and performing data analysis and information administration, with proven benefit for the South African people.

Over the past 12 months, Cuban doctors in South Africa have seen 239,411 patients, provided 40,391 nursing techniques and performed 1,215 surgeries.

But, above all, their services helped save the lives of 1,423 patients -917 of them with COVID-19.

Additionally, 31 biomedical engineers recovered 3,174 pieces of equipment that had been considered unusable. Their work allowed the South African Minister of Health

to save not less than \$18 million, an amount the country would have spent in hiring services of foreign providers.

Additionally, the Cuban electro medical engineers shared their knowledge and trained young South African technicians to make that important work once they finish their mission.

Today, the members of the brigade that are still in South Africa -some of them returned to Cuba already- are getting ready to cope with the imminent third wave of the pandemic in that country.

In parallel, general cooperation between the countries continues to develop and gets materialized in other sectors such as education, science, technology, agriculture, infrastructure development, housing, water and cleaning, defense, human settlements, public works, sports, information technology and communications, according to Rodolfo Benítez Verson, Cuban Ambassador in South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini.



A brigade of the Henry Reeve International Contingent of Doctors specialized in Disaster Situations and Severe Epidemics traveled to South Africa. PHOTOS: Courtesy of the Cuban Embassy in South Africa.



Over the past 12 months, Cuban doctors in South Africa have seen 239,411 patients.

We are more than a travel magazine...



**Cubaplust is available
in 134 point of sales
located in hotels in
Havana and Varadero,
at International Airports
and Holguin's Telecorreos
as well as in the bookstores
of Casa de las Americas.**

www.cubaplustmagazine.com

To subscribe please contact :

Gerencia editorial Prensa Latina

Email: gerenciaeditorial@el.prensa-latina.cu

Tel: 7833 2279



On the Road to a Better Legal System

By Karina **MARRÓN**

HAVANA.- Cuba improves its legal system following the launch of four bills that will soon be submitted for the approval of the People's Power National Assembly (Cuban Parliament).

The set of regulations from the Justice Courts, Administrative Process, Process Code and Legal Process are currently being analyzed by different actors, which will allow for modification before putting them to the vote of the Legislative body.

Through virtual and regional meetings, the MPs recently held a working session in order to state their opinions, doubts and concerns about the bills on the table.

Communication is also open for citizens to express their views and suggestions about the changes, which will be taken into consideration in this amendment – in line with the development of the Constitution established in 2019.

These modifications are also in tune with the international instruments that Cuba has signed.

Lawyers, university professors, members of the legal body attached to the Ministry of Interior and other specialists have also taken part in the analysis of these bills.

These bills are an expression of transparency and improvement of the Cuban legal system; a materialization of the socialist State of Law and social justice endorsed by the Magna Carta, said president of the Supreme Popular Court (TSP) Rubén Remigio.

In a recent press conference, Remigio added that the process of analysis of these bills will allow "strong and modern regulations, among the most advanced in the world" to be submitted to Parliament.

According to the president of the Constitutional and Legal Issues Commission at the Cuban Legislative body, these proposals entail complex transformations in relation to structure, composition and functioning.

One of those reforms addresses increasing legal safety, legal independence principles, impartiality, transparency and popular control, as well as the binding nature of the decisions taken by those bodies.



President of the Supreme Popular Court (TSP) Rubén Remigio. PHOTO: Prensa Latina..

The regulation on the Legal Procedure has 201 articles, which include new and important features related to the amendment of the right to defense, the specialist commented.

Director of Legal Procedures at the General Attorney's Office of the Republic, Lysnay Mederos, highlighted some elements of the legislative proposals linked to gender-based violence, including the endorsement

of establishing restraining orders as a preventive measure and the possibility that victims testify in private instead of appearing in court.

The regulations that rule the legal, judicial, administrative and civil procedures in Cuba date back to 1977, thus the need for their renovation in line with the changes that have happened in the society, in addition to the Constitution.



World Economy: Certainties and Uncertainties



Director of the World Economy Research Institute, Ramón Pichs. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.

By TeyunéDÍAZ

HAVANA.- The world is witnessing a situation of economic asymmetries, polarized and exacerbated in some regions by COVID-19, which is responsible for a health crisis with serious implications.

The most industrialized countries –less than 15 percent of the world population- generate 63 percent of world exports, while developing countries – more than 80 percent of the world population- account for only 31 percent, the Director of the World Economy Research Institute, Ramón Pichs, told *The Havana Reporter*.

A similar situation exists in the world's 39 most indebted countries which, with ten percent of the world population, barely

contribute one percent of sales abroad and 1.6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), he stressed.

This means they do not have enough resources to boost their future economic growth and are trapped in a vicious circle of underdevelopment and poverty, without immediate solutions on the horizon, particularly in amidst current circumstances, the academician added.

It's not about how the world was when the pandemic broke out, but which strategy to adopt to solve the problems, the official wandered.

In 2020, the economist highlighted, the global GDP decreased 3.5 percent, 8.8 percent of working hours were lost in the world – equivalent to 225 million fulltime jobs. Latin America, southern Europe and southern Asia were the most affected regions, he added.

Employment income dropped by \$3.7 billion –equivalent to 4.4 percent of the world GDP- and the biggest losses were reported on the American continent, stressed Pichs.

Women, youth and informal workers were and continue to be the most affected during the pandemic. The informal sector represents 30 percent of the workforce in low-income countries and 15 percent in developed countries. Tourism also shrank by 70 percent, with losses estimated at \$1.3 billion, putting between 100 and 120 million jobs at risk, without expectations to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2023 possibly, Pichs said quoting statistics by the World Tourism Organization. Similarly, he referred to the reduction of world remittances and how this situation has affected a group of developing countries very much dependent of this type of money transfer, due to difficulties in the developed countries themselves, supporting many of these funds come.

Therefore, fresh outbreaks of the pandemic and the discovery of other strains of the virus are reasons for further concern; "we are experiencing moments of great uncertainty in the world economy."

Although the vaccination processes are a ray of hope, its execution is very unequal and substantial groups of the world population that live in a situation of poverty and marginalization are once more disregarded. "All this stresses the need for multilateral cooperation and to ensure greater access to vaccines," he sustained.

Despite the huge level of uncertainty, last April the International Monetary Fund

envisaged 6 percent economic growth for 2021 and 4.4 percent for 2022. However, the organization warned that post-pandemic recovery will depend on access to medical interventions and the effectiveness of support policies.

Low and generalized levels of the disease are likely to continue until the end of 2022, although it could be faster in some countries, Pichs explained.

In the meantime, poverty and inequity is expected to increase in 2020-2021, while extreme poverty is likely to affect to 95 million people, he indicated.

THE IMPLICATIONS OF WORLD DEBTS

Pichs recalled that at the beginning of 2020, many countries reported high debt, in an environment of many economic crises exacerbated by COVID-19. Total debt ratio –public, business, household, financial- was estimated at some \$277 billion (365 percent of the world GDP).

If this trend continues, he warned that it would reach some \$360 billion by 2030. "It's a highly indebted world and the poor are undoubtedly in a desperate situation, because they do not have the conditions to generate enough income to survive this situation of crisis and pay off those debts at the same time."

The foreign debt of developing countries totaled some \$11 billion in 2020, and that also year, they paid off nearly \$4 billion to creditors (interest rate and repayment).

In the 2012-2020 period, they transferred nearly \$30 billion to creditors which, in terms of income generated from exports of goods and services, represent 50 percent. In regions such as Latin America, that ratio is even worse, at 57 percent, he noted.

"This shows why it is said that the debt is a major obstacle in the development of the poorest countries," the prestigious academician pointed out.

Latin America Marked by Labor Poverty

By MiriamCÉSAR

HAVANA.- Nearly 140 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean work under informal conditions, a figure that represents about 50 percent of the working population, the International Labor Organization (ILO) recently informed.

Five in 10 workers have informal jobs and most of them are in street sales, the specialized body indicated.

In Peru, for example, 68.4 percent of workers were estimated to be employed in the informal sector in 2019, while in Argentina that figure rose to 49.4 percent. In Uruguay and Chile, about a quarter of the population work in paid activities of the informal labor market.

According to secretary of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA) Peruvian Javier Paulinich, although the informal market is an alternative to unemployment, one of the impacts it has on the economy is related to low productivity, in addition to the lack of protection and access social or labor benefits.

ILO warned that 28 million Latin American people face labor poverty because of the pandemic, as a result of which 11.1 percent people will be unemployed in the region this year. Although a recovery of the employment indexes is expected, these will not reach the levels of the loss

registered as a result of the pandemic of COVID-19, a disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

"Jobs will be regenerated, but very slowly and under the risk of having more inequalities than before the pandemic; for this reason, a global strategy that focuses on people within its public policies is needed," the expert affirmed.

ILO considers essential devising strategies that allow

setting the foundations for a return, with better labor conditions for all workers.

The idea is to strengthen job recovery in sectors and categories that are highly affected, as well as to improve institutional issues related to labor security and health, formalization of workers and promotion of women and girls' labor inclusion.

Even though the region has experienced recovery in the first half of 2021 – with a reduction in the percentage of working hours lost from 30 to 11 percent – Latin America still is the world's most affected region at present.

Applying extraordinary measures to rebuild the region's labor markets – highly affected by COVID-19 – is a must for ILO regional director, Vinícius Pinheiro.

"Employment should be at the center of economic recovery, said Pinheiro, who also believes that the lack of employment in the recovery processes can lead to an increase of social unrest and affect Latin America's political stability.

Throughout this year, 34 million people will look for a job and will not find it. According to predictions, that figure will be smaller in 2022, although there is a high degree of uncertainty about how reality will actually look.



Street sales in Ecuador. PHOTO: Prensa Latina.

Soroa, a Lush Green Landscape

Text and Photos Roberto F. CAMPOS

HAVANA.- Soroa is undoubtedly one of the most stunning places in Cuba, with peculiar greenery that captivates people from around the world each year.

Located in the western region of the island, this Biosphere Reserve has amazing and varied wildlife.

Soroa owes its name to two Spanish brothers, Lorenzo and Antonio Soroa Muñagorri, who arrived there in 1856 hoping to make a fortune.

They first bought La Merced Coffee Plantation and later on the Neptuno, San Luis and San Ramón de Aguas Claras Coffee Plantations, later naming the city due to their local influence.

However, the area did not become famous due to the Soroa brothers, but rather, thanks to its beautiful landscape, its ruins of former coffee plantations and the fact that it was the setting of an important independence war against Spanish colonialism.

This gorgeous place is home to what is known as the Soroa Botanical Orchid Garden, where over 20,000 orchid species can be found.

Located in the province of Artemisa, Soroa borders the Sierra del Rosario Mountain Range and belongs to the Guaniguanico Mountains; situated in a small valley formed by the Manantiales River, the main affluent of the Bayate River.

Also known as Cuba's Rainbow, Soroa features a 22-meter waterfall that is considered one of Cuba's natural wonders, famous since the 17th century.

Visitors can also enjoy views from the Castillo de las Nubes (Castle in the Clouds). Built in the 1940s on an impulse of Pedro Rodríguez, its first owner, the building resembles a medieval mansion on top of El Fuerte Hill.

After its owners left the country upon the Triumph of the Cuban Revolution, the Castillo de las Nubes became heritage of the Cuban State. Together with the Orchid Garden it became the main attraction of the new tourist area created for the people. From the viewpoint known as El Mirador, about 250 meters above sea level, is regarded as the perfect balcony, where visitors can enjoy one of the best views of the Sierra del Rosario and Sierra de los Órganos Mountain Ranges.



Peru: Castillo Acts as President, Despite Maneuvers

By Manuel ROBLES

LIMA.- The countdown for the transfer of presidential power in Peru advances inexorably while various maneuvers and even threats of a coup d'état have increased in the nation, with the intention of blocking the way for the humble rural teacher, who officially won the vote of the elections held on June 6.

However, at the close of this issue, Castillo showed discreet behavior in relation to the maneuvers launched by lawyers seeking to prevent his proclamation. Still, he acted as president-elect, dealing with politicians of different positions, social leaders and other visitors.

Castillo has been acknowledged as the winner of the elections by politicians who were his rivals in the first round, in addition to journalists, the Council of governors of all the regions, the national Association of municipalities and professional associations, among other institutions.

He has also been acknowledged by most social organizations that, together with the left parties, created a National Front for Democracy and Governability, which anticipated a national strike if Castillo is not proclaimed president.

The president-elect should officially take on power on the day of the national anniversary – July 28. However, because of its complexity, the transfer of administration usually begins a few weeks before.

The problem is that Keiko Fujimori, defeated by more than 44,000 votes, denounced “table fraud,” raising suspicions of signature forgery and other alleged

irregularities that she has no proof of, to the point that on Twitter, she admitted a lack of evidence. However, she expects the National Electoral Jury (JNE) to discuss her demand for annulling the voting ballots in the rural areas in which Castillo won by a comfortable margin. The court, though, refuses to do it because according to the law, such a demand should be accompanied by the appropriate evidence.

In addition, JNE has no power to investigate crimes, and suspicions of forgery should be investigated by the Public Ministry, which should not prevent the progress of the power-transfer process.

In the light of this situation, Luis Arce Córdova, a prosecutor who is under investigation for an alleged case of corruption and is a JNE member as delegate of the Public Ministry, announced his resignation from the court because this rejected a group of pro-Fujimori cases of nullity and paved the way for rejecting all cases – already rejected by the provincial electoral courts.

Although changes and resignations of JNE members during an electoral process is forbidden, the withdrawal of Arce – who assumed pro-Fujimori positions and voted against his three colleagues – means leaving the court without quorum prevents this from solving the pro-Fujimori demands and proclaiming the new president.

Harassment of electoral authorities and pressure on the JNE by retired military are other maneuvers that have been conducted in favor of Fujimori.

To the National Front for Democracy and Governability, these actions are an incitement of a coup d'état, to preventing the first left president in the history of Peru from getting to the Government Palace.



ALBA-TCP Ratifies Commitment with Latin American Integration

CARACAS.- Cuba and the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America- Peoples' Trade Treaty (ALBA-TCP) strengthened ties amidst the complex challenges they face ahead.

During the XIX ALBA-TCP Summit, held on June 24, Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs Bruno Rodríguez ratified Cuba's commitment to strengthening relations within the group in light of the coercive measures against the member States and fight against COVID-19.

The minister recalled that, in recent years, 240 measures have been imposed on Cuba by the United States to prevent its development – 50 of them in recent times – and condemned their validity.

“If the U.S. government was slightly interested in human rights, it would lift the blockade, which seeks to cause hunger, misery and death; it would end aggressions toward the nation and abandon the neoliberal paradigm it tries to impose,” he stressed.

The head of Cuban diplomacy highlighted the Alliance's strength and foundational principles; its intention to continue making progress, increasing exchanges and counting on the island “in the line of fire for life, dignity, peace and justice.”

Rodríguez also affirmed Havana's support for Venezuela and Nicaragua, defending their national sovereignty against Washington's threats.

In its final declaration, the Summit ratified the will for genuine Latin American and Caribbean integration that faces imperialist domination, and highlighted the need to strengthen the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) as a mechanism for political coordination, based on the principle of unity among diversity.

The Alliance also reaffirmed its condemnation of the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed on Cuba by Washington and rejected the discredit campaign promoted by the U.S. government against Cuba's medical cooperation, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

In relation to health, the ALBA-TCP countries called for universal immunization against the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and urged to guarantee an urgent, equal and solidary distribution of vaccines, supplies and equipment at affordable prices.

The document rejected the conduct of Secretary General of the Organization of American States Luis Almagro, who has led that multilateral body on a path of violent actions, interventions in domestic affairs and breaches of constitutional order in some countries of the region.

Founded in Havana on December 14, 2004, ALBA-TCP's objective is to promote regional integration to fight poverty and social exclusion on the basis of solidarity, coordination and cooperation.



Pedro Castillo, the humble rural teacher who officially won the vote count of the elections. PHOTO: Internet.

Improving the Economy

By Cira**RODRÍGUEZ**



Vice Prime Minister Alejandro Gil.

PHOTO: Prensa Latina.

HAVANA.- For Cuba, 2021 will be a year marked by profound transformations, greater autonomy of production, the elimination of obstacles and efforts to make the best use of the country's potential. That transcendental process started on January 1 with the implementation of the monetary reform, as part of the process for updating the country's economic model.

Ever since the new economic plan began development, transformations impacting the national economy were proposed and

later on approved by the Council of Ministers. The monetary reform was the first big and important change implemented, regarded as indispensable for creating conditions that allow the country to make things with greater impact on its economy, Vice Prime Minister Alejandro Gil said recently.

Beginning on the first day of the year, the legal circulation of the Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC) was discontinued. The Cuban peso (CUP) is the only legal currency now circulating in the country, with just one exchange rate at 24 CUP to one USD.

This different economic approach supports the change and thus brings forward the socioeconomic strategy designed by the country.

Hence, despite some mistakes and corrections made along the way, current problems such as shortages, inflation and price hikes –associated with the lack of stable offer on the market- and low influx of hard currencies due to the reduction of exports and tourism, would still characterize the Cuban economy even if the monetary reform had not been implemented.

It's worth explaining that not all of those problems have been caused by the reform but by pressures linked to the tightening

of the U.S. blockade, which deprives the Cuban economy of legal income, and by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, the monetary restructuring stands as a measure the Cuban economy needs, as it will benefit its national economic performance and allow this process to move forward.

At this point, that complex process enables all economic actors to be on an equal monetary footing. Favorable signs can be appreciated already, not only in terms of employment but also in the performance of the entrepreneurial system.

These efforts are to strengthen the socialist state enterprise as it is the core of the Cuban growth model.

Achieving competitiveness and efficiency with an integral vision includes other forms of state and non-state management, such as nonagricultural cooperatives, micro, small and medium enterprises and private employment. In this regard, Vice Prime Minister Gil recalled that 201 new guidelines that set the country's course and define its priorities were approved by the 8th Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, held last April.

He also called to shake the socialist state-owned enterprise, as powers are being

decentralized and opportunities exist, such as the possibility to access hard currencies based on results, self-management, competence, innovation and mutually beneficial relations with key sectors.

"We must make it competitive, it must have incentives for the domestic (market) and prove to be competitive abroad," noted Gil, who is also Minister of Economy and Planning. In addition, 15 other measures were approved and implemented to give this form of management more facility to negotiate, seek solutions and create alliances.

As part of the process for improving Cuba's economic actors, another new element the monetary reform has fostered is the creation of micro, small and medium enterprises (Mipymes). Their set of laws, corresponding powers and scope of action are being designed.

Those entities will adjust to the characteristics of the Cuban economy under the state-run and private format, with one same model of management but with different regulations and taxes. They will coincide with self-employment and nonagricultural cooperatives.

This translates to a more competitive scenario with an increase in the non-state sector, structure and role in the economy, with enterprises that have high added value, innovation and can contribute to the socialist economic model.

SEGUROS de Viajes
+ COVID-19

Personas que viajan hacia o desde Cuba

que los imprevistos no limiten tus viajes

ESTICUBA

Cuba Strives to Recover Sugar Production

By Roberto **SALOMÓN**

HAVANA.- In a recent tour to several provinces, Cuban Vice President Salvador Valdés highlighted the need to improve the current state of the sugar agribusiness, the former driving force of the national economy.

The above statement was based on the fact that this sector contributes, to a large extent, to the availability of food, energy and other important items.

Sugarcane production, a sector with a sustained, annual growth of 13 percent from 2011 to 2017 (resulting from the better provision of essential resources and investments) but then fell in the following years.

That fall was the result of the insufficient replacement of materials due to the serious economic difficulties associated with the strengthening of the economic blockade imposed by the United States on Cuba for over 60 years.

The 2018 sugarcane harvest was preceded by an intense drought that lasted two consecutive years and the passing of hurricane Irma—one of the most intense in the country's history. This phenomenon, which happened on September 2017, affected most of the country, from Matanzas (120 km east of Havana) to the eastern provinces.

The 2019/2020 sugarcane harvest, for its part, saw its production reduce to 11 percent – and more than 20 in the 2020/2021 season – because of the lack of stable oil supply.

That was the result of insufficient financial resources because of the blockade and the impact of the international economic crisis caused by COVID-19.

The Azcuba Entrepreneurial Sugarcane Group, the entity responsible for this activity, has an area of 1,396,285 ha – of

this, 934,000 are dedicated to production and 462,285 to agricultural administration. The group also has 56 sugar mills, 10 refineries, 12 distilleries and 89 livestock food plants. It also has 71,200 workers in the entrepreneurial system and a productive center that includes 746 cooperatives and 83,547 members.

In addition, Azcuba has three joint ventures and a business portfolio that includes 19 projects.

The sugarcane agribusiness is a natural combination of food, energy and water, experts say. This means that this sector is sustainable and follows the concept of circular economy, because its residue is used as a soil nutrient.

The industry's main products are sugar, honey, alcohol, rum, electricity, livestock food, boards, glucose, sorbitol, fructose syrups, candies and wax, which is used in the production of PPG (medication), director of the Azcuba By-Products Division Carlos González told *The Havana Reporter*.

The official added that the sector also contributes to the balance of food, milk, beef, pork and other crops and has productive connections with the national economy, including 14 Entrepreneurial Management Bodies and 50 companies. In addition, it is represented in over 500 communities and 66 towns in 50 municipalities.

All those reasons justify the need of giving priority to the agribusiness sector and its revitalization.

Paraphrasing renowned Havana historian Eusebio Leal Spengler (deceased), this agribusiness, which represents Cuban culture, history and identity, can revive the national economy, as in addition to sucrose, it provides energy and different products that are obtained from the sugarcane syrup and bagasse.



Azcuba has 56 sugar mills, 10 refineries, 12 distilleries and 89 livestock food plants. PHOTO: Prensa Latina.

High-Quality Inspection

By Marlen **BORGES**

HAVANA.- Almost 60 years after its foundation, the Cubacontrol S.A. International Supervision Services Company still maintains excellence as guardian and protector of all the economic activities linked to the country's foreign trade.

Cubacontrol General Manager José Andrés Conde explained that the center has not been alien to the effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the world economy. However, they meet their goals and strategically open their doors to new opportunities, thanks to the so-called Ordering Task, promoted by local authorities since January this year and as a result of which Cuba's two legal currencies were unified.

This measure has been highly beneficial for Cubacontrol, as the entity has a high level of exports and monetary conversion provides a sustainable income and allows utility distribution, Conde explained.

By the end of April, plans were met by 103 percent and expenses by 94.1 percent, while added value rose to 103 percent and productivity to 100 percent, the expert added. Conde also noted that at present, the center plays a



Cubacontrol General Manager José Andrés Conde. PHOTO: Prensa Latina.

predominant role in export-related incomes, especially those linked to services— an important source of foreign currencies for the island.

This is the result of new regulations that have allowed liquidity, in order to meet payment commitments abroad, which in turn contribute to the organization's sustainability and development.

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

The institution does not stop at anything, not even COVID-19, because even at night, its activity

continues on the other side of the world, the manager said.

Founded on September 4, 1961, Cubacontrol S.A. offers specialized supervision and inspection of goods, lab analysis, customs arrangements, assistance to insurance companies and research, under the NC ISO 9001:2015 certification and Lloyd's Register.

With the implementation of the new policies, which authorized the non-state sector to conduct foreign trade activities, this company plays an essential role for those actors. "At present, we are involved in honey, rum, cocoa, sugar and alcohol inspections, as well as the sale of charcoal and fruits; in general, we are involved in all of the country's sales," the manager commented.

Conde added that the company supervises, both here and abroad, the products that arrive in national territory, be it fuel, raw materials, and consumables.

We work with 34 prestigious institutions of the type in the world that meet our requirements and the international norms, he highlighted.

Cuban specialists are present in countries such as Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Spain, China and Vietnam; some of them work in agencies that conduct inspections for Cuba and for other destinations too, a number that changes depending on demand.

For Glory in Tokyo 2020

By Jhonah **DIAZ**

HAVANA.- On July 23, the Tokyo 2020 Olympic flame will ignite, marking the beginning of the most atypical event in the history of the Olympic Games, in which the Cuba delegation will be eager to make new marks of glory.

The Caribbean nation hopes to be placed among the top 20 nations in the Japanese capital, a big aspiration of the over 70 members of the team, which includes Greco-Roman wrestler Mijaín López, Olympic champion in Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Río de Janeiro 2016.

"I am my main opponent," López, 38, told The Havana Reporter. "Age is rather secondary; at least, that's what I have shown. Mental strength either makes you a champion or not and I wish to win," he added.

López is the head of a talented and humble delegation that includes other renowned athletes, such as wrestler Ismael Borrero, judoka Idalys Ortiz and boxers Andy Cruz and Julio César la Cruz.

Also worth mentioning discuss throwers Denia Caballero and Yaimé Pérez, long jumper Juan Miguel Echevarría, taekwondo player Rafael Alba, and shooter Leuris Pupo, who all also make us dream big.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has been and still is devastating, and training was not as consistent as on other occasions because of tournaments' suspension, travel restrictions and the well-known fact that Cuba does not have the economic power needed to adapt itself to 21st-century athletics.

However, that reality does not frighten a territory with continuous standing on the Olympic medal table since Tokyo 1964. That's why the motto says: Let's do it for Cuba!

The phrase is a clear appeal to meeting individual and team objectives with determination; to commit to doing their best in order to win and repay the trust of a people that breathe sports and idealize memorable performances.

Thus, the goal is to win three or more gold medals, a prediction based on the analysis of the best records the Cuban athletes have established worldwide and the course of their preparation toward Tokyo, a city that will welcome a delegation totally immunized against COVID-19.

In Río de Janeiro 2016, Cuba finished in the 18th position, with 11 medals – 5 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze. Throughout the history of the Olympic Games, the country has placed 16th among 206 National Olympic Committees, with 78 gold, 68 silver and 80 bronze medals.

The abovementioned stats might seem unattractive to some people. However, they represent a monumental glory that is the result of the social transformations undertaking in Cuba since the triumph of the Revolution in 1959.

Since then, the formation of sport professionals has increased substantially and sport schools have been created, together with a strategy aimed at giving all people access to dream of and potentially reach the Olympic podium.

In spite of the brutal blockade imposed on Cuba for more than 60 years by the main economic and military power of the world, the United States, Cuba's greatness can be understood through the following piece of information: the island is the Spanish-speaking country with the highest number of medals in the Olympic Games; therefore, the ambition of reaching more glories in Tokyo 2020 is well justified.



Greco-Roman wrestler Mijaín López, Olympic champion in Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Río de Janeiro 2016. PHOTOS: Prensa Latina.



Discuss throwers Denia Caballero.



Shooter Leuris Pupo.



Boxer Julio César la Cruz.



Escáner
IN-DEPTH JOURNALISM



A look at current issues under the lens of in-depth and investigative journalism.

www.prensa-latina.cu

@PrensaLatina_cu @AgenciaPrensaLatinaOficial PrensaLatinaTV
 @PrensaLatinaNoticias TesoroLatino @prensalatinaCuba



La mayor casa editorial de publicaciones seriadas de Cuba
The largest publishing house of continuous publications in Cuba

www.prensa-latina.cu

@PrensaLatina_cu PrensaLatinaTV @AgenciaPrensaLatinaOficial
 @PrensaLatinaNoticias @PrensaLatinaNoticias TesoroLatino




CIGB CENTRO DE INGENIERÍA GENÉTICA Y BIOTECNOLOGÍA

Medicamentos tradicionales y novedades del CIGB conforman los protocolos cubanos de tratamiento a la COVID-19, además de dos candidatos vacunales: Abdala y Mambisa

Ave. 31 entre 158 y 190,
 Playa, La Habana, Cuba
 Teléfono: +537 2716023
 Web: www.cigb.edu.cu
 Facebook: CIGBCubaCuba
 Twitter: CIGBCuba
 LinkedIn: CIGB Cuba

BIOCUBAFARMA