

Public discussion of draft constitution beginning in Cuba this Monday



Havana, August 13 (RHC)-- Beginning on Monday and until November 15, millions of Cubans will be participating in public discussions on a draft new Constitution, which will be voted on in a referendum in February.

In meetings held in work centers and neighborhoods across the country, Cubans will be submitting their opinions and proposals regarding the text, approved by the National Assembly in July.

The document, which introduces major changes in the current Constitution, in force since 1976, ratifies the socialist character of Cuba's political system and the leading role of the Communist Party in society. It proposes changes in the structure of the Cuban state, including the position of Prime Minister as head of government.

More than 15,000 activists working in duos will guide the grassroots discussions on the text, compiling all additions or edits suggested. The new Constitution is made up of a preamble and 224 articles, split under 11 titles, 24 chapters and 16 sections.

Cubans living abroad will be able to join in the constitutional debate by digitally sending their views and opinions.

Eldis Vargas, vice-president of Correos de Cuba, the Cuban postal service, said on Sunday that more than a million copies of the text had so far been sold.

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