Paraguayans go to the polls to decide their future

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The president-elect will take office next August 15, and will leave office in August 2028, with no

August 2028, without the possibility of reelection. Image taken from Prensa Latina

Havana, April 30 (RHC)-- The people of Paraguay choose at the polls, this Sunday, the immediate future of their country between the National Concertation and Colorado parties, with almost 76 years in power.

The more than 4.7 million Paraguayans summoned will have 13 different alternatives to decide on a candidate for president and another for vice-president.

The polls, most of them questioned for their veracity, point to the dispute between these two main rival candidates, headed by Efraín Alegre, of Concertación Nacional para un Nuevo Paraguay and Santiago Peña, for Asociación Nacional Republicana Partido Colorado (PC).

In addition to the presidential formulas, Paraguayans will select for the next five years 45 senators, 80 deputies, 17 governors, and local authorities.

The proposals for vice-president are Soledad Núñez representing Concertación Nacional para un Nuevo Paraguay, as well as Pedro Alliana, of the PC.

In Paraguay there is no second round, so the candidate with the most votes wins, and according to the foreseen schedule, the president-elect will take office on August 15, 2023, and will leave office in August 2028, without the possibility of reelection.

The same will occur with the other member of the same duo, who will occupy the position of vicepresident.

Both will replace the current president Mario Abdo Benítez and vice-president Hugo Velázquez, of the PC, who have been governing since August 15, 2018.

In August 2023, the 17 elected governors with their corresponding councilors will also take office, while senators and deputies will be sworn in on July 1, 2023.

According to official records, the electoral process of this April 30 would be the eighth since the coup d'état that put an end to the dictatorship of more than 35 years of Alfredo Stroessner, in February 1989.

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