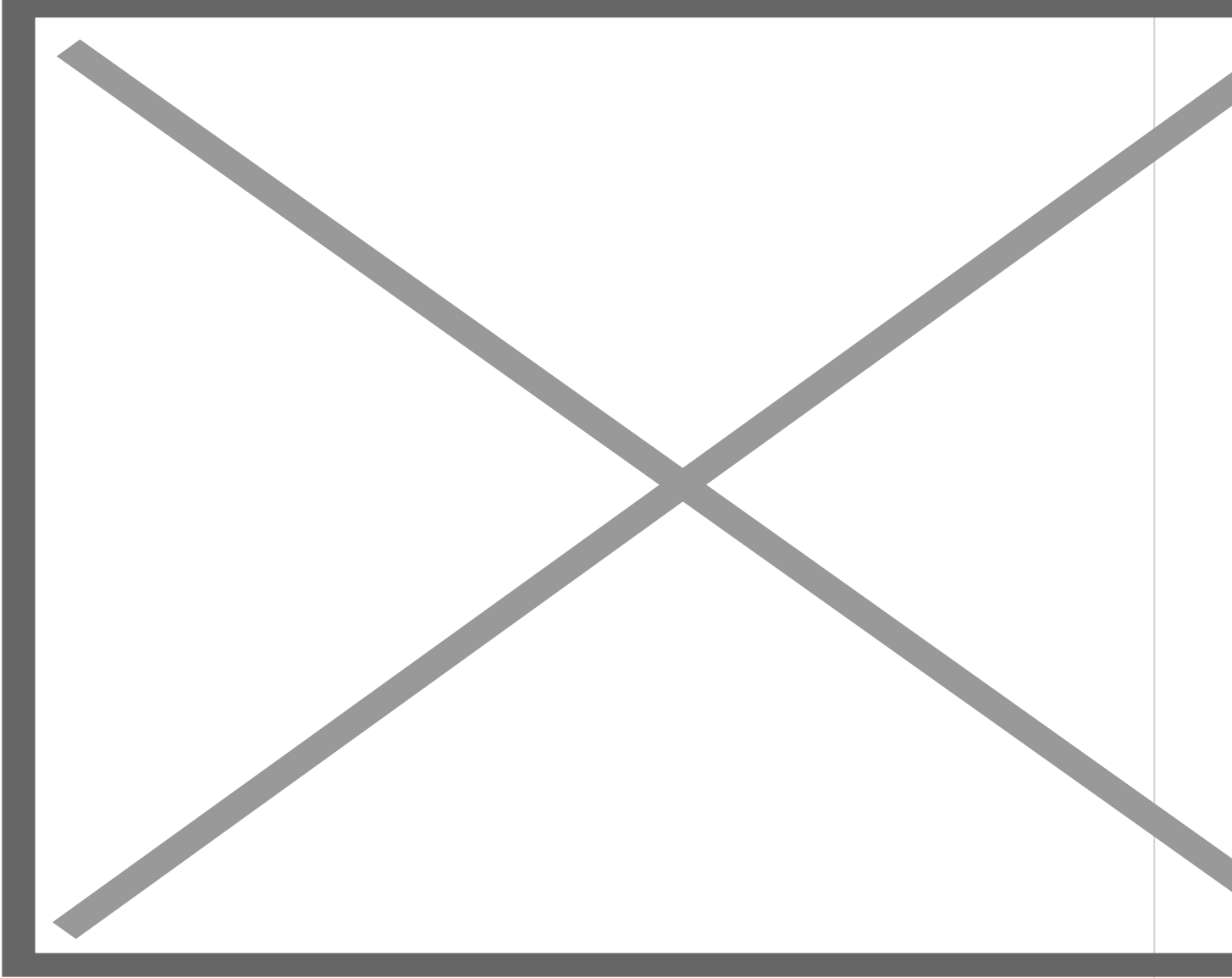


# *Cuban president calls for better social assistance to vulnerable people*

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**Díaz-Canel referred to the importance of the work of social workers in caring for the most vulnerable in the underprivileged in the communities. Photo: Archivo/RHC**

Havana, September 9 (RHC) -- The First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel urged authorities to improve the system of care for socially disadvantaged people for whom significant resources are allocated from the state budget.

In a meeting held the day before with members of the Government, the President referred to the importance of articulating the social programs of the Revolution, promoted by historic leader Fidel Castro Ruz (1926-2016).

The topic motivated rigorous analysis in the meeting that, from now on, will be carried out systematically.

Photo: Estudios Revolución

The head of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security (MTSS), Martha Elena Feitó explained that in the midst of the intensified US blockade of the island, six billion pesos -one dollar is equivalent to 24 Cuban pesos, at the official exchange rate- were allocated to social assistance, of which 733 million correspond to items for the delivery of resources to families in vulnerable situations.

At the meeting, which was also attended by the country's vice-president and prime minister, Salvador Valdés Mesa and Manuel Marrero Cruz, respectively, the incorporation of these people to study or work was evaluated, as well as the attention to socially disadvantaged families.

Likewise, the authorities reviewed a set of measures and decisions that will allow updating government policy in order to, as established in the recent Code of Cuban Families, adequately attend to people who wander without family protection.

Photo: Resumen Latinoamericano

The minister recalled that Cuba has nine specialized centers for the care of these patients, but it is necessary to increase the culture of institutions and citizens on this issue.

In order to revitalize the programs and projects that benefit the most disadvantaged in the communities, it was announced that in the next two years the country will increase the number of social workers from 7,000 to 10,000.

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