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Havana, February 15 (RHC) - The main figure of Cuban cycling, Arlenis Sierra, finished eighth in the first stage of the Tour of the Valencian Community, run on Thursday over 113 km between Tavernes de la Valldigna and Gandía.

Figure of the Movistar club of Spain, Arlenis was once again one of the protagonists in a road race with the participation of most of the best cyclists on the planet.

Last year 2023, Arlenis finished sixth in the same initial fraction of the Vuelta a la Comunidad Valenciana, which she won overall in 2022 by winning two stages.

On Thursday, the opening stage of the sixth edition was dominated by world champion Elisa Balsamo (Lidl-Trek), who showed her finishing skills in a massive final stage, in which she clearly overcame the Dutch Olympic and world champion Marianne Vos (Team Visma).

Balsamo, who also won last year, became the rider with the most victories in the Valencian race, with four.

The second stage will be held this Friday, starting in Borriol and finishing in La Vall d'Uixó, over a 117 km route on undulating terrain.

As usual, the Tour of the Valencian Community will have four stages - from Thursday to Sunday - and will travel through the towns of Castellón, Valencia and Alicante.

For this edition 22 professional teams have registered.

Stage 1 / Official results:

BALSAMO Elisa (Lidl - Trek)
VOS Marianne (Team Visma | Lease a Bike)
RÜEGG Noemi (EF Education-Cannondale)
NIEWIADOMA Katarzyna (Canyon//SRAM Racing)
LACH Marta (CERATIZIT-WNT Pro Cycling)
BARIL Olivia (Movistar Team)
MAJERUS Christine (Team SD Worx - Protime)
SIERRA Arlenis (Movistar Team)
CECCHINI Elena (Team SD Worx - Protime)
DIDERIKSEN Amalie (Uno-X Mobility).

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