

# *Cuban lawmakers discuss draft of new Constitution prior to Saturday's ordinary parliamentary session*

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Havana, July 20 (RHC)-- The standing commissions of the National Assembly of People's Power (Cuban Parliament) met Friday to continue studying the draft Constitution, after two days dedicated to the individual reading of the document.

During Friday's meeting, members of the temporary committee in charge of Constitutional Reform and a group of advisors participated to clarify all the doubts regarding the text toward further deepening the lawmakers' knowledge and understanding of the draft, which will be amply debated at Saturday's ordinary parliamentary session.

At an extraordinary parliamentary session held June 2, lawmakers agreed to begin the process of Constitutional Reform and a 33-member Commission was set up, responsible for drawing up the preliminary draft.

The Commission is chaired by Communist Party first secretary Raúl Castro Ruz, and is also made up of President Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, and the Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party, José Ramón Machado Ventura.

The Commission took as a reference the contribution of experts from various institutions and the studies previously carried out by a working group, commissioned by the Political Bureau of the Cuban Communist Party to analyze the impact on the constitutional order of the changes that have been taking place, to evaluate issues that needed to be incorporated into the constitutional text, to study constitutional processes developed in various other countries, as well as to study in depth aspects of our history and constitutional tradition.

The Commission presented a preliminary draft of the new Constitution to the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Party Central Committee and the State Council, in which each of its precepts was analyzed in depth.

Once the National Assembly of People's Power studies the document, it will be submitted for consultation to the Cuban people in a public referendum.

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