

# *Cuba prioritizes actions on virus hotspots to combat COVID-19*

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Havana, April 21 (RHC)-- Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel has defined the work with virus transmission hotspots as a priority among the actions being carried out these days to confront COVID-19. These reflections took place on Monday during the meeting with the temporary working group for the prevention and control of the new coronavirus. Díaz-Canel leads the daily meetings along with Prime Minister Manuel Marrero.

"If we work intensively on the number of outbreaks that have already been identified," the Head of State said, "we can cut transmissions in many of them." Hence his insistence on "being very precise, with a lot of detail"; we must review and control how each of the hotspots is being dealt with in each province, and especially in those that have the most intense or the greatest number, because they need more strength to work directly.

The Cuban president was particularly pleased to note that 30 new medical discharges were granted the previous day, on Sunday, one of the highest figures in the days since the epidemic began on the island. "A total of 285 people have been treated by our health system and have been saved," he said.

The Head of State lamented the death of two people, a situation that has been going on for six consecutive days and is closely related to the fact that we are approaching the most complex moments of the pandemic.

In making an assessment on priorities in the current context facing the country, President Díaz-Canel insisted on a detailed review of nursing homes and the functioning of hospitals.

With respect to the latter, he emphasized fundamental directions that cannot be lost sight of at any time, such as the preparation of medical personnel and their protection; the organization of hospital services in general; the rigorous fulfillment of the protocols used in each case; as well as the progress of a group of services within medical institutions that are provided to personnel and in which no detail can be neglected.

Likewise, the Cuban president considered that as more is known about the way in which the virus attacks human beings, we must constantly take into account and evaluate the new complexities that are emerging with the disease. At the same time, he added that we must review the experiences that are emerging in the most diverse fields of work, including those of the Cuban medical brigades that are facing the pandemic in other countries.

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