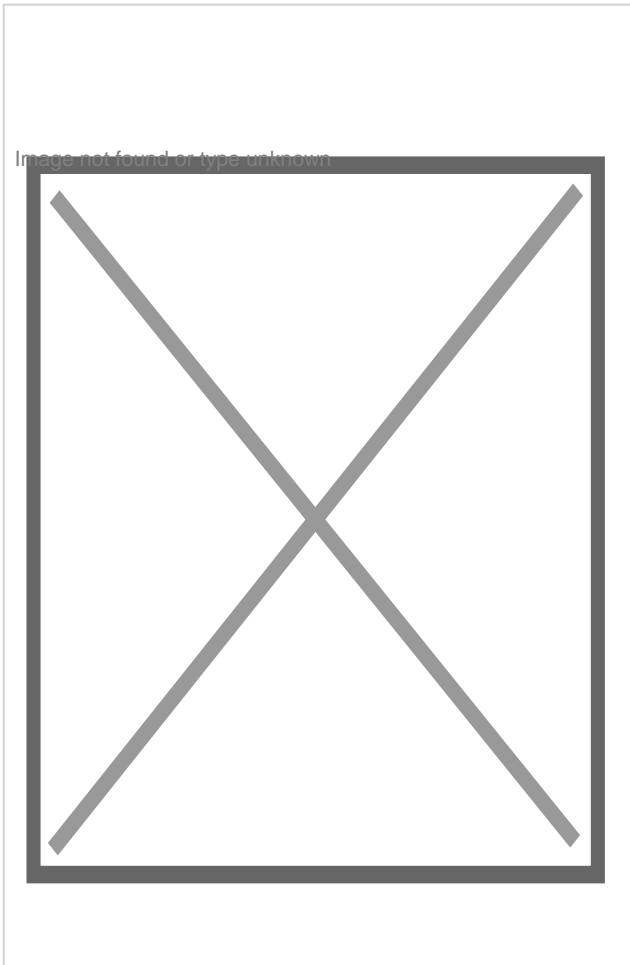


# *Raul Castro congratulates FMC on its 60th anniversary*

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Havana, August 23 (RHC)-- The First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, Raul Castro, congratulated women on the island on Sunday on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC).



In a letter addressed to the organization's secretary-general, Teresa Amarelle, Raul Castro referred to the federation's achievements during the past six decades which includes, the protection of the women's rights to participate in a society under equal conditions, opportunities and possibilities, as well as the protection against discrimination and violence.

The political leader also highlighted the important role women have played in the Revolution and how their participation has been critical in all sectors of society including education, health, science, and more.

Castro also stressed women's work in high government positions, while also congratulating the work of women in the fight against COVID-19, which he says 'shows, once again, that no task can be undertaken without women's assistance.

Likewise, President Miguel Diaz-Canel also congratulated women on the 60th anniversary of the organization, highlighting their extraordinary work in science and medicine.

"I congratulate the Cuban women who dazzle the world with their extraordinary work: the creators of Soberana01 (Covid-19 vaccine) and other medicines, the scientists, doctors, and nurses who do not rest in order to defend life. Happy 60th anniversary of FMC," Diaz-Canel wrote on Twitter.

According to the organization's Secretary-General, Teresa Amarelle, Cuban women have been crucial in the island's fight against COVID-19. Women make up 61 percent of the staff of the Henry Reeve brigades that have provided assistance in nearly 40 countries around the world. A big part of the country's team in charge of creating the Cuban COVID-19 vaccine is also women.

The FMC was founded on August 23, 1960, by revolutionary leaders Fidel Castro and Vilma Espin in order to promote women's rights, gender equalization and reproductive rights. It also seeks to incorporate women in the process of social and economic changes in Cuba.



**Radio Habana Cuba**