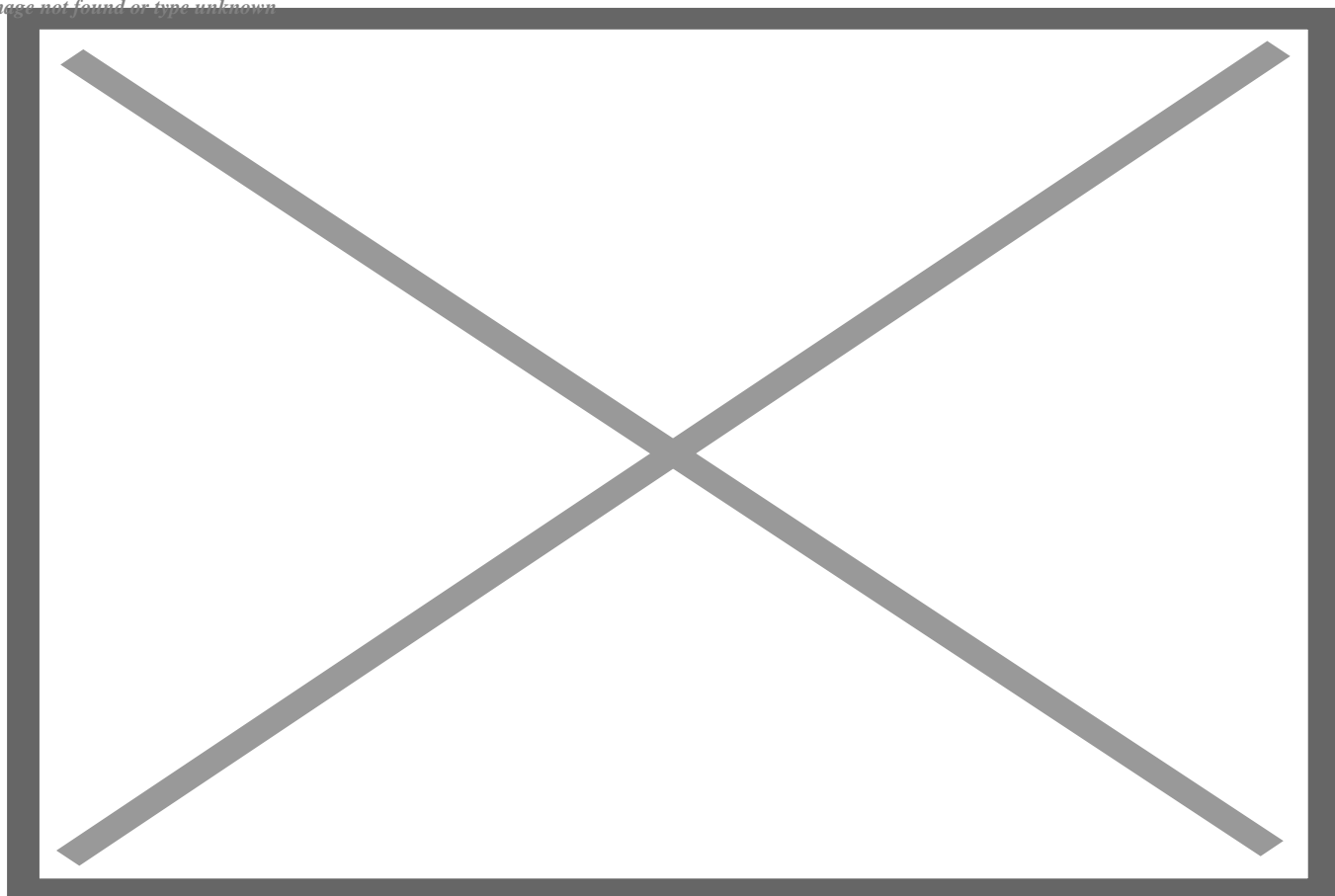


# *Council of Ministers holds last session of the year*

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Havana, December 31 (RHC)-- The Council of Ministers held on Thursday its last meeting of the year. Participants assessed territorial planning, the fulfillment of the Economic and Social Strategy, the continuity of studies, and the improvement of retail trade.

The President of the Republic, Miguel Díaz-Canel, recalled that there are accumulated problems that need to be solved and although they cannot be solved all at once, neither can we allow immobility.

It is necessary to propose solutions, implement them and evaluate what results they give us, to rectify what needs to be rectified and continue moving forward. This is a way to be at the level of what the people are asking for, Díaz-Canel said.

"To achieve this, we must work differently," he emphasized; we must energize processes, take risks, propose, implement; we must seek efficiency and be with the people in the neighborhoods.

The Prime Minister, Manuel Marrero Cruz, who led the meeting, stressed the need for each measure adopted by the Ministry of Finance and Prices to be analyzed until its real impact is known.

At the meeting, a proposal of the Minister of Labor and Social Security, Marta Elena Feitó, for the continuity of studies of 9th-grade graduates and for the entrance to Higher Education was approved.

The agenda of the Council of Ministers included the approval of the Territorial Planning Scheme of the province of Artemisa, which is based on the use of the potential of this territory.

Another of the topics evaluated was the fulfillment of the measures adopted for the improvement of retail trade, an aspect in which the Minister of Domestic Trade, Betsy Díaz, acknowledged that progress had not been made in the same way in all territories.

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