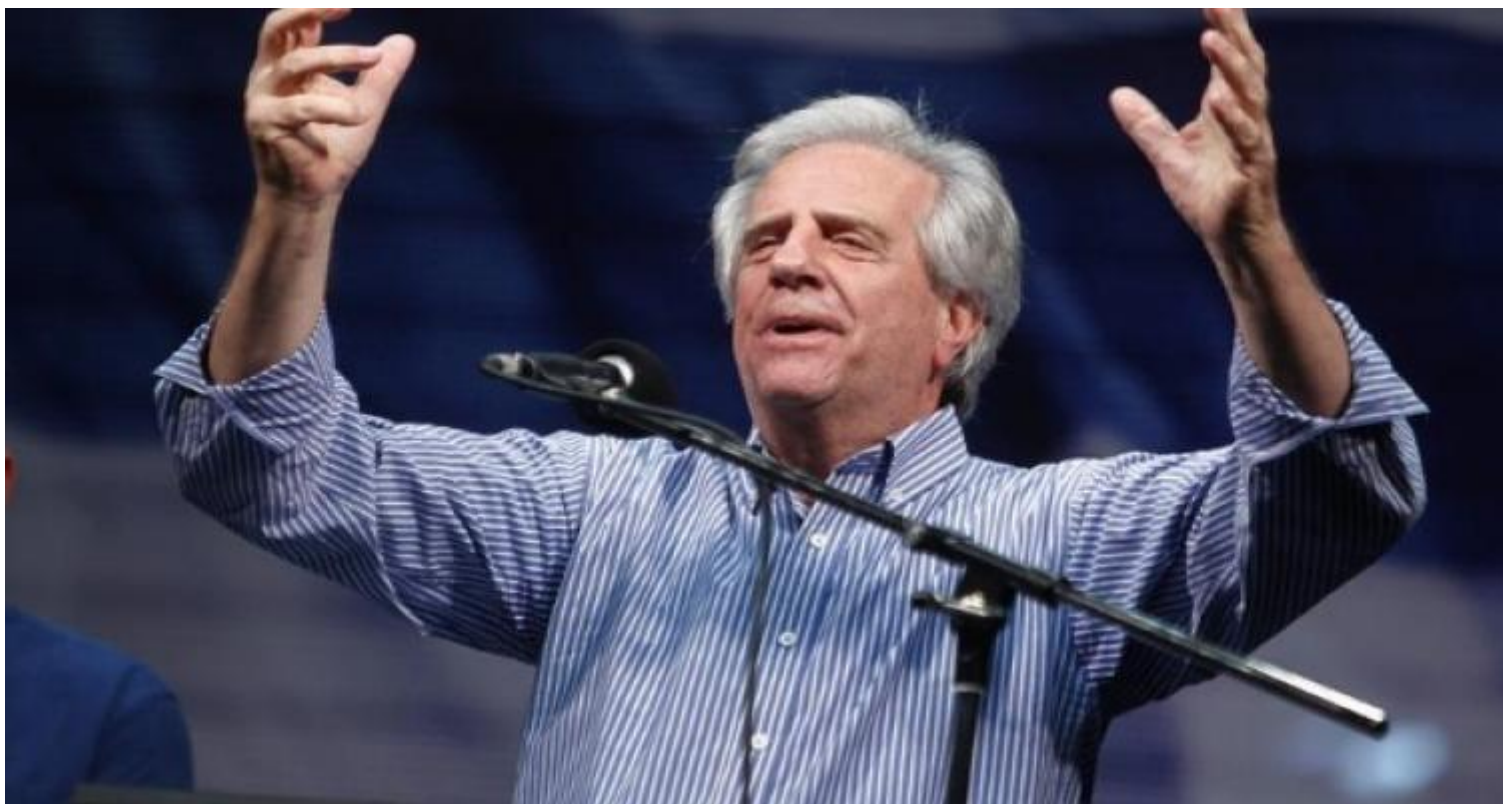


Obama to Meet Presidents of Uruguay, Chile and Costa Rica



Washington, April 07 (teleSUR-RHC) U.S. President Barack Obama requested a meeting with his Uruguayan counterpart Tabare Vazquez, Chilean President Michelle Bachelet and the Costa Rica's Head of State Luis Guillermo Solis.

They are expected to meet during the Summit of the Americas in Panama on April 10 and 11.

Uruguayan Vice President Raul Sendic confirmed the meetings at the country's council of ministers but gave no details over the topic of the meetings, except that the theme of this year's Summit, "Prosperity with fairness," would be on the agenda, *La Tribuna* reports.

"We are interested in deepening cooperation with the countries of America and the processes of fairness that the continent has been given," Sendic said.

Under former Uruguayan president and Vazquez's predecessor, Jose Mujica, the Latin American nation accepted the U.S. president's request to take ex-Guantanamo prisoners into Uruguay.

The summit is principally organized by the Organization of American States, a body based in Washington and long-dominated by the United States. The OAS has a checkered past and was labeled by Fidel Castro as a "Trojan horse" of US foreign policy.

However, under a new OAS General Secretary, former Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Almagro, there is hope the body could become more representative of the needs of the 900 million citizens in the Americas it claims to represent.

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