

Members of the Council of State



RAÚL CASTRO RUZ—President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: 2nd Secretary of the Central Communist Party Committee, First Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministry. He is part of the Ministry of the Navy Forces of the Revolution. He participated in the Moncada Attacks, expeditionary of Granma, Combatant of the Sierra Maestra, Chief of the Second Eastern Front "Frank País", Military Chief of the Eastern Province, FAR Minister since 1959, Parliament deputy since 1976, when he was also elected as First Vicepresident of the Council of State and Ministers and promoted to General of the Army. In 1998, he was given the honorary title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba" and added to the first grade of the Order "Máximo Gómez". He has notably contributed to the Revolution as a political leader, Statesmen, and Military Chief. Municipality: Segundo Frente.



JOSÉ RAMÓN MACHADO VENTURA—First Vice President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Member of the Polit Bureau and Vice President of the Council of State. He is a founder of the Party and initiated his revolutionary activities from the coup attempt of March 10th, 1952, when he studied Medicine at the University of Habana. He started in the Sierra Maestra. Part of the Ministry of Public Health. Formed part of the Central Committee of the Party in 1965. Member of the Polit Bureau since the First Party Congress. National Assembly deputy since 1976. Municipality: Guantánamo.



JOSÉ MIGUEL MIYAR BARRUECOS—Secretary

Scholar level: Superior. Occupation: Secretary of the Council of State. He formed part of the Rebel Army. He was part of the commission that established Rural Medical Service in Cuba, of which he later became director. He performed medical services in the Imías region. He Participated in the Bay of Pigs and occupied various positions in the health, learning, and production sectors. In 1976, he became Chief of the Office of the President and was elected deputy to the National Assembly. He is a member of the Central Committee. He's been assigned responsibilities related to the development of Biotechnology, the formation of the Latin American School of Medical Sciences and the International School for Physical Education and Sports. He is an emeritus professor of the Medical faculty for "Victory of Giron." Municipality: 10 de Octubre.



JUAN ALMEIDA BOSQUE –Vice president

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: President of the Association of Combatants of the Cuban Revolution. He began participating in the Revolution March 10, 1952. Alongside Fidel, he participated in the assault of the Moncada Barracks. He participated in the Granma embarkation. He was promoted to the level of Commander and in March of 1958 organized the Third Front of Mario Muñoz Operations in the Sierra Maestra. Since the first of January of 1959, he has occupied different political positions. In October of 1965, when they started the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, he was designated to be a member; he was also part of the Polit Bureau. In September of 1968, he was assigned as a delegate of the Polit Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party, in charge of the Construction sector. In September of 1970, he was a delegate of the Polit Bureau in the province of Oriente. He has been President of the Association of Combatants of the Cuban Revolution since its conception. He is a Commander of the Revolution and was awarded the title of “Hero of the Republic of Cuba.” Municipality: Santiago de Cuba.



JULIO CASAS REGUEIRO—Vice President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: First Vice Minister of the FAR. In March of 1958, he joined the Rebel Army. He worked directly with Raul Castro, first as messenger and personal delegate for the Second East Front “Frank Pais.” He Founded the Sixth Column. He became the assistant to the Chief of the PNR at the beginning of the revolution; in June of 1959, he became chief of the department of administration. In January of 1960, he was chief of the Sub-ministers division of MINFAR. Among many of his positions, he has been Chief of Direction of the rearguard, Vice Minister of the FAR, substitute for the Head of the rearguard of the Cuban military mission in Ethiopia. He was Chief of the Eastern Army, Chief of the DAARFAR troops, and substitute of the Ministry of the FAR for economic activity. Since 1990, he has been a member of the Central Committee and of the Polit Bureau. He has been honored with the title of “Hero of the Republic of Cuba.” He is a deputy of the National Assembly. Municipality: Encrucijada.



JUAN ESTEBAN LAZO HERNÁNDEZ –Vice President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Member of the Polit Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party. He is a founder of the Association of Young Rebels. He is a Party Activist and became a member of the Municipal Committee of the Party in that territory. In 1966, he attended the Superior School of the Party “Nico López”. He became First Secretary of the Party in the provinces of Matanzas, Santiago de Cuba, and Ciudad de la Habana. Since 1993, he has been a member of the Polit Bureau, focusing on ideology. In 2006, he became the Secretary of the Central Committee. He was a delegate at the Fifth Party Congress. In 1981, he became a deputy to the National Assembly and since 1992, he has been Vice President of the Council of State. Municipality: Arroyo Naranjo.



CARLOS LAGE DÁVILA—Vice President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers and Vice President of the Council of State. He is a member of the Polit Bureau of the Party and has a rich educational trajectory. In 1975, he was elected President of the FEU and 3 years later, member of the National Bureau of the UJC. He later became Second Secretary of the UJC and in 1982, became First Secretary of that young organization. He studied medicine in the school "Victory of Giron." He also completed international missions in Ethiopia and directed the Cuban Medical Contingency. In 1986, he became part of the Support and Coordination Team for the Commander in Chief. Since 1990, he works as the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers. He has been a National Assembly deputy since 1976. Municipality: Plaza de la Revolucion.



ABELARDO COLOMÉ IBARRA—Vice President

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Minister of the Interior. He joined the July 26th Movement in 1955; November 30th of 1956, he took part in the uprising in Santiago de Cuba, and in 1957, he became part of the Rebel Army in the Sierra Maestra. He was promoted to the level of Commander in December of 1958. Now he is an Army Corps General. He not only holds the highest rank after Raul, but also holds key political and military positions. In 1970, he was designated Chief of the Direction of Military Counterintelligence; at the end of 1975, he was named Chief of the Cuban Military Mission in Angola, and when he came back, he was vice minister of the FAR. He is also a founder of the Party and member of the Polit Bureau. He has the honorary title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba." Municipality: Contramaestre.



JOSÉ RAMÓN BALAGUER CABRERA

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Minister of Public Health. As a medical student, he participated in hunger strikes and protests against the Batista dictatorship. In May of 1957, he joined a group of men that Frank Pais sent to the Sierra Maestra. In an intent to create a Second Front, he was detained in the Miranda Center and spent two months in Boniato Prison. In 1958, he joined B Pedro Soto Alba, in the 19th column, Second East Front "Frank Pais." After the triumph of the Revolution, he held various positions in the FAR and the Ministry of Public Health. Between 1976 and 1985, he became the First Secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Communist Party in Santiago de Cuba. He was promoted to Secretary of the Communist Party's Central Committee. Since 1975, he has been a member of the Polit Bureau and of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. He is a deputy of the National Assembly and a member of the Council of State. Municipality: Santiago de Cuba.



RAMIRO VALDÉS MENÉNDEZ

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Minister of Information and Communication. He participated in the attack of the Moncada Barracks and was an expeditionary of Granma. He was also the Second Chief of the 8th Column in the West Invasion. He became a member of the Polit Bureau since its founding until 1986, when he then became a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. He is a Deputy to the National Assembly since its conception and a member of the Council of State. He holds the title of Commander of the Revolution. He was Chief of State Security, Minister of the Interior, First Vice Minister Chief of the Construction Sector, and Vice President of the Council of State. He was awarded the honorary title of “Hero of the Republic of Cuba.” Municipality: Artemisa.



PEDRO SÁEZ MONTEJO

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Member of the Polit Bureau and First Secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party in the City of Havana. He is licensed in Education and attended “Camilo Cienfuegos” Military School in Santa Clara. He was a History Professor, and in 1975, he was discharged from the FAR and worked as Section Chief of History and Solidarity in the Provincial Committee of the UJC of Las Villas. In 1984, he became a member of the National Committee; there he soon became Vice Chief and Chief of the Organization Department. He then became a member of the National Bureau and Second Secretary of the National Committee until 1988, when he completed his international mission in Angola. Within the party, he has held diverse positions, including: First Secretary of Sancti Spiritus and Havana Provinces. Since 2003, he has occupied similar responsibilities in the City of Havana. He was a delegate to the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Party Congresses. In the Fifth, he was elected member of the Central Committee and the Polit Bureau. He has been a Deputy since 1987 and member of the Council of State since 2002. Municipality: Playa.



LUIS SATURNINO HERRERA MARTÍNEZ

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: General Director of the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology. In 1970, he founded the Genetic Laboratory of the CENIC and in 1977 did work related to DNA Recombinant Technology. He was Director of Investigations for the Center of Biological Investigations and the Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (CIGB). In 1999, he went on to occupy the post that he still holds. He participated in scientific experiments for the CIGB. He is an Emeritus Investigator of CITMA. He is also an Academic with merit. He has received other acknowledgements from Scientific Institutions and National and International Academies. He has 20 patents. He received the honorary title of “National Hero of Work.” Municipality: Santa Clara.



IRIS BETANCOURT TÉLLEZ

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Territorial Delegate of CITMA and Granma. She is a Veterinarian and did her Doctorate in the Soviet Union. In 1975, she began her career as a professor in the William Soler unit of Bayamon. In 1994, she became Director of the Institute Jorge Dimitrov for Agricultural Investigations. Since 1993, she has been a Coordinator of the Poly Scientific and member of the Council of the Provincial Administration. She is a Deputy since the Fifth Legislature and part of the Council of State. Municipality: Manzanillo.



ROBERTO FERNÁNDEZ RETAMAR

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: President of the House of the Americas and professor at the University of Havana. Collaborated in the fight against the Batista dictatorship and joined the Civic Resistance Movement. He participated in the Bay of Pigs and the October Missile Crisis. He devotes his life to writing, learning, editing, and the promotion of culture. He was director of the New Cuban Magazine, Cuban Cultural Consultant in France, Secretary Coordinator of the UNEAC, Founder and Director of the Union Magazine until 1995, and a member of the House of the Americas, a foundation in existence since 1986. He is the founder of the Center for Marti Studies and was its Director until 1986. He is a Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Sofia and Buenos Aires, Investigator Emeritus, and Professor Emeritus of the University of Havana. He is also a Deputy of the National Assembly and member of the Council of State. Municipality: Playa.



FRANCISCO SOBERÓN VALDÉS

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: President Minister of the Central Bank of Cuba. He joined the Association of Rebel Youth in 1961. He is the founder of the UJC, of the CDR, and of the National Revolutionary Militias. He participated in the October Crisis. Between 1964 and 1968, he occupied different posts relating to Cuba's international commercial activity. From 1968-1978, he worked in the Cuba-Charter business and from 1978-1994 returned to commercial and financial responsibilities. He is licensed in Social Sciences and did postgraduate work in Multiuse System Computation and the Economy. Municipality: Sancti Spiritus.



FELIPE RAMÓN PÉREZ ROQUE

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Minister of Exterior Relations. He has been a deputy in the National Assembly since 1986 and a member of the Council of State since 1993. He participated in youth organizations. He was part of the National Vanguard of Pioneers and the FEEM. He was a delegate to the Twelfth Youth and Student Festival. Between 1988 and 1990, he was the National President of the FEU. He joined the National Bureau of the UJC. He has been a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee since 1991, in which he

also joined the Support Group for the Commander in Chief. He was assigned Minister of Exterior Relations in May 1999. Municipality: Arroyo Naranjo.



CARLOS MANUEL VALENCIAGA DÍAZ

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: Member of the Council of State. He's had various roles in the Pioneers and the FEEM. He was National President of the FEL in 1997 and a member of the Provincial Committee of the UJC in the City of Havana and of the National Bureau. He is licensed in Education in Marxism-Leninism and History. In 1997, he joined the Party and has been a member of the Central Committee since 1993. He has been a deputy and a member of the Council of State since 1988. Since 1999, he has been Chief of Communication for the office of the Commander in Chief. Municipality: San Jose of the Lajas.



ORLANDO LUGO FONTE

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: President of the National Association of Small Farmers. He was part of the militia of the July 26th Movement and participated in the attack on the San Luis Quarters. He joined the Rebel Army in 1959. He is the founder of the Party and member of the Central Committee since 1980. He was the First Secretary in Mantua and the First Secretary of the Provincial Committee of Pinar del Rio. In 1987, he was elected President of the ANAP. He also joined the Provincial Assembly of Popular Power in Pinar del Rio. He's been a deputy since 1976 and a member of the Council of State since 1986. Municipality: Güira de Melena.

New Members



MARÍA YOLANDA FERRER GÓMEZ

Scholar Level: Superior. Occupation: General Secretary of the Federation of Cuban Women. She is licensed in Political Science. In 1962, she became part of the UJC and in 1963 was elected as a Staff Level Secretary General of the Institute of Vibora. In 1960, she started her work for the National Direction of the FMC, in which she has occupied diverse positions. In 1973, she became a member of the National Secretariat. She was a delegate in the First Party Congress; in the Second, she participated as a guest and became a member elect of the Central Committee; in the Third, she was elected as a substitute member of the Polit Bureau, a post she held until the Fourth Party Congress. She was also a delegate to the Fourth and Fifth Congresses, during which she was again made a member of the Central Committee. She is a deputy to the National Assembly. Municipality: Pinar del Rio.



SALVADOR ANTONIO VALDÉS MESA

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: General Secretary of the National CTC. He participated in the Association of Young Rebels (AJR) and he participated in the Bay of Pigs. He was General Secretary of the AJR in the region of Amancio Rodríguez. He has occupied many positions in the CTC and of the PCC. He was General Secretary of the National Union of Farm Workers and Second Secretary of the National CTC. Between 1995 and 1999, he was Minister of Work and Social Security. In this past year, he was elected as First Secretary of the Party in the province of Camagüey. Since June of 2006, he has occupied his current position. He was a delegate at the Fourth and Fifth Party Congresses and is a member of the Central Committee. He has been a National Assembly member since 1993. He has previously been a member of the Council of State. Municipality: Santa Cruz del Sur.



JUAN JOSÉ RABILERO FONSECA

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: National Coordinator of the CDR. He graduated as a doctor and began his work career in 1978 as Director of the Polyclinic Ramón López Peña in Santiago de Cuba. He was also Vice Director of Medical Assistance in the municipality Santiago de Cuba, coordinator of Rural Medical Services in the province, and chief of medical collaboration in the exterior until may of 1985. He completed an internationalist mission in Nicaragua. In the Fifth Congress of the CDR, he was elected member of the Executive National Secretariat, and in 2002 he was promoted to National Vice Coordinator. Municipality: Santiago de Cuba.



JULIO MARTÍNEZ RAMÍREZ

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: First Secretary of the National Committee of the UJC. He began his studies in 1982 as a mid-level technician in the Polytechnic Institute of Economy “Pablo Elvio Pérez Cabrera” and later he studied the specialty of Accounting Finance in the University of Camagüey. Since 1987 he has occupied various positions in youth organizations and has been noticed as a hard working political leader. In the Eighth Congress of the UJC, in 2004, he was elected as First Secretary. He was a delegate at the Fifth Party Congress. He is also member of the Central Committee of the PCC. Municipality: Chambas.



MARÍA DEL CARMEN CONCEPCIÓN GONZÁLEZ

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the PCC. She is licensed in History and Social Sciences. She began her work in 1972 as Secretary of the Poultry Farm “Protesta de Baraguá.” She was a professor of the Secondary School “Catalina Valdés” and of the ESBU “Batalla de Montezuelo.” In 1987, she passed to the Municipal Committee of the PCC in, and was promoted to a member of the Polit Bureau and in 1990, to the First Secretary of the Party in Consolación del Sur.

In 1994, she became First Secretary of the Provincial Committee of the Party, a position she occupied until 2006. In the Fifth Party Congress in 1997, she was elected as a member of its Central Committee. She is a deputy of the National Assembly. Municipio: Consolación del Sur.



TANIA LEÓN SILVEIRA

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: President of the Municipal Assembly in Colón. She is an Agrochemical Engineer and Agronomy graduate of the former Soviet Union. She began working in 1988 in the Business of Various Cultivations in Calimete. In 1991, she was chief of productions of the Farm of Various Cultivations in Colón. For her noticeable work as member of the UJC, she was promoted to the First Secretary of the Youth in the municipality and member of its Provincial Committee. In 1995, she was elected secretary of the FMC in the municipality of Colón. Municipality: Colón.



REGLA DAYAMÍ ARMENTEROS MESA

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Specialist of economic measures for the Hotel Los Caneyes. She is licensed in Economics and is a mid-level technician for programming computers. She is a member of the National Council of the FEEM and Provincial President of the organization. She also became a member of the Provincial Committee of the UJC. Since 1993, she has been a Delegate of the National Assembly and in 1995 became a Delegate of the municipality Santa Clara. Between 1997 and 1999 she was a member of the Municipal Committee of the FMC. She is also a member of the Provincial Committee of the PCC. Municipality: Santa Clara.



INÉS MARÍA CHAPMAN WAUGH

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Provincial Delegate of the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources. She was president of the FEEM in the vocational school Jose Marti in Holguin. She was selected among the seven best alumni and motivated with a trip to the Soviet Union. She was incorporated into the ISP (Superior Pedagogical Institute) "José Antonio Echeverría," where she graduated as a Hydraulic engineer in July of 1988. She has taken post-graduate courses in the University of Holguin. Municipality: Frank País.



DIGNORA MONTANO PERDOMO

Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Vice Rector of University Extension of ISP "Capitán Silverio Blanco Núñez". Before concluding her secondary education in 1969, she opted for a career as a professor, specializing in Spanish Literature in the ISP "Félix Varela", in Villa Clara. She finished her studies in 1974. She has been selected as an Exemplary Educator. She has a master's degree in the Science of Education. Municipality: Sancti Spíritus.

SURINA ACOSTA BROOK



Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Secretary General of the FMC in the province of Santiago de Cuba. She is a graduate of Livestock Engineering in the Upper Institute of Animal Science in Bayamo. She began working in the Raul Palomo firm in the municipality of San Luis. In 1995, she worked as an instructor of the FMC in the district of Abel Santamaría, in Santiago de Cuba. She is a non professional member of the National Secretariat and is part of the National Committee of the organization. Municipality: Contramaestre.

GUILLERMO GARCÍA FRÍAS



Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: Director of the National Firm for the Protection of Flora and Fauna. He was the first rural person incorporated into the Rebel Army after the disembarkation of Granma, chosen by Fidel. He had a noticeable participation as a combatant and a chief, and he reached the Second East Front "Frank Pais." After occupying various positions in the FAR, he was designated a Vice President of the Council of State and of Ministers. He was later made the Minister of Transportation. He was part of the first Central Committee of the Communist Party as well as its Polit Bureau. He has been a National Assembly delegate since the first legislature. He has received the title of Commander of the Revolution and was given the honorary title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba." Municipality: Pilón.

LEOPOLDO CINTRA FRÍAS



Scholarly level: Superior. Occupation: He was a member of the 26th of July Movement and fought alongside Raul Castro in the Second East Front "Frank Pais", during the uprising against Batista's government. Since the foundation of the Cuban Communist Party in 1965, Cintra Frías has been a member of the organization. He studied and graduated from the School of Military Science in the Soviet Union. Cintra was Chief of Artillery until he was appointed to head the Southern Military Mission in Angola (1975) and the Ogaden Front in Ethiopia (1978). In Angola he was directly involved in the defeat of FLNA troops command by Holden Roberto. He was elected alternate member of the Politburo during the Second Congress (December 1980) and became a full member in the Third Congress (February, 1986). From 1984 - 1987, and again in 1989, he was chief of the military mission in Angola. He participated directly in the peace talks on the Angola-South Africa conflict. In 1989, he was awarded the Medal of Hero for the Republic of Cuba.



ÁLVARO LÓPEZ MIERA

Scholarly Level: Superior. He is the son of a former Spanish Republican leader, who came to the island as an exile and who was a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Santiago de Cuba. Lopez Miera had a long military career, participating in missions in Angola and Ethiopia. He was decorated on several occasions and bears the honorary title of "Hero of the Republic of Cuba." He has been a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee since 1980 and was Deputy Chief of Staff at the time of his appointment, according to a statement released by the Revolutionary Armed Forces, which are headed by Raul Castro, President Fidel Castro's brother.

From Granma (Habana) 2/24/08