

Raul Castro Re-elected Cuban President

Written by

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HAVANA, Cuba, Feb 24 (acn) The National Assembly of People's Power (Cuban Parliament) ratified Raul Castro as President of the Council of State and elected Miguel Diaz-Canel as First Vice-President.

The 605 deputies at the session, which set up the new parliament on Sunday, elected all 31 members of the Council of State, which represents the Parliament and implements its accords in the periods between its two annual sessions.

Miguel Diaz-Canel is a 52-year-old electronic engineer. He is member of the Political Bureau of Cuba's Communist Party and he was the first Party secretary in the provinces of Villa Clara and Holguin. He was also minister of Higher Education and vice-president of the Council of Ministers.

Other vice-presidents of the Council of State elected in the session were Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, second Communist Party secretary; Gladys Bejerano, general comptroller; Ramiro Valdes, vice-president of the Council of Ministers; Lazara Mercedes Lopez, first Communist Party secretary in Havana, and Salvador Valdes, general secretary of the Cuban Workers Confederation. Homero Acosta was ratified as secretary of the Council of State.

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Following the setting up of the new parliament at Havana's Conventions Palace, the deputies elected Esteban Lazo as president of the legislative body for its 8th Legislature and ratified Ana Maria Mari as vice-president, and Miriam Brito as secretary.

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Parlamento ratifica a Raúl como jefe del Estado