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Dirección de Comunicación Institucional

At the same time that the celebrations for International Women's Day were taking place, the Meeting of Female Leaders from MINCOM was in session in the afternoon of March 8th, at the theater of the Communications Ministry. The meeting was shaped by life stories and experiences.

The MSc. Grisel Reyes León, who is the vice minister of Communications, referred to the role of women as mothers, daughters, wives and workers along with all the difficulties that they must face. She talked about the patriarchy as a long lasting culture and about the difference in the lives of women from different places around the world. She spoke of the satisfaction that working with other female leaders produces, leaders that share the same problems. She also referred to how important it is to encourage the training of future female leaders.

The MSc. Cecilia Valdés Milián, deputy director of the Institutional Communication Office, shared her life's story by beginning with the following phrase: "There are no limits for women, and must be taken into account." She started to work at the age of fifteen at a local industry workshop thanks to the help of the Cuban Women's Federation because she had to decide between taking care of her mom and continuing her high school studies. After working during the day and studying at night, she concluded her high school studies in order to start her Economics major in the modality for workers. She held different positions before being elected as a delegate to the National Assembly of the People's Power and then she began her work in the Ministry of Communications. She also shared all the reasons that have made her a happy woman during her time in the sector and she mentioned all the accomplished tasks as well referring to her job in her position in the Cuban Communist Party.

The MSc. Niurka Arriete Hernández, director of Radio Frequency, shared how hard it was for her as an engineer to be acknowledged in equal conditions because this was a work that was only performed by men in the past, in addition, she talked about her experiences up to these days. She expressed how she felt when she was led by other women and how she has felt by working in an executive position.

Later, the First Vice Minister, Wilfredo Gonzalez Vidal, repeated the congratulations given to all women, especially to those of our sector, by the Minister in the morning. He praised the capacity, strength, nobility and loyalty that characterize Cuban women, and the principles that make them even greater. Moreover, he also referred to the great proportion in the Ministry between leaders from both genders with the same degree of responsibility and to the importance of never again making a difference between a man and a woman in Cuba.

The closing words were delivered by the guest Yaniova Conias Vega, who is an official from the National Directorate of the Cuban Women's Federation. She talked about the 90 years during which Cuba has been

celebration this date and about all the reasons that make all Cuban women celebrate especially. The especial conditions of this year because of COVID-19 were not left out of her speech, and she spoke of the role of women in every step of the fight against this pandemic. In the end she congratulated all women from the Communications sector on behalf of the National Secretariat of the federation.

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