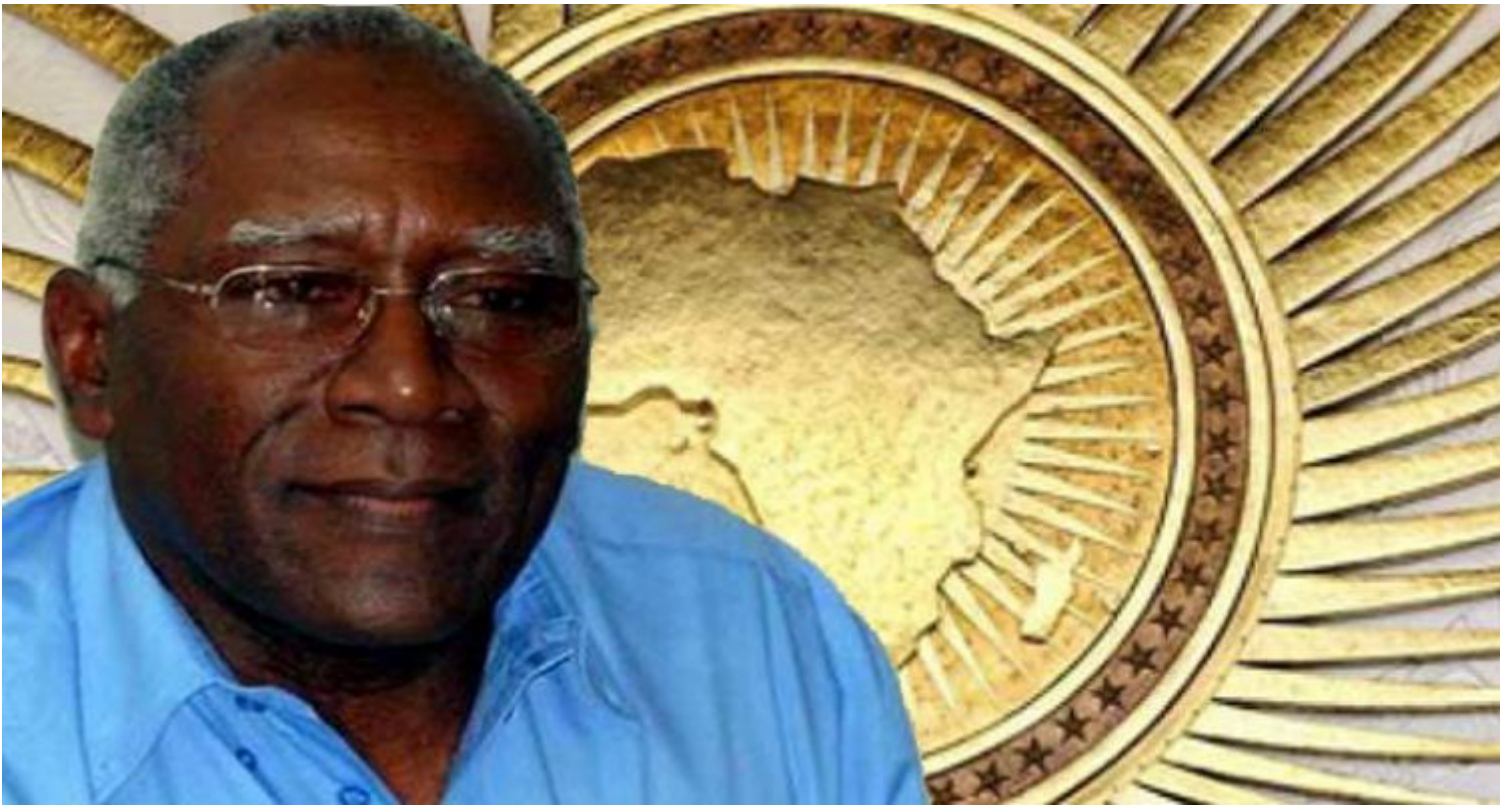


Vice President Salvador Valdes Mesa in South Africa for presidential inauguration



Pretoria, May 24 (RHC)-- Cuban Vice President Salvador Valdés Mesa is in South Africa heading the island's delegation that will participate in the presidential inauguration ceremony of Cyril Ramaphosa scheduled for Saturday.

One of the first activities by the Cuban leader in Pretoria was a visit to Freedom Park, where he laid a wreath at the memorial erected to the fighters who gave their lives in the struggles for the liberation of the African continent, and the overthrow of the Apartheid regime. The Wall of Names include those of some 2,200 Cuban internationalist fighters.

At the ceremony, Valdés Mesa spoke of the close ties of friendship and cooperation between Cuba and South Africa, and offered information on the many fronts on which the Cuban government works to promote development.

The Cuban vice president on Friday will hold talks with leaders of the African National Congress (ANC), the Communist Party, and the Congress of Trade Unions of South Africa.

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