

# *U.S. lies about banning remittances to Cuba*

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Havana, October 31 (RHC)-- The United States is lying in its attempts to justify the impediments to sending remittances to Cuba through the company Western Union, denounced on Friday the island's financial company FINCIMEX.

Through the Twitter account of the CIMEX

trading corporation, its parent company, FINCIMEX] issued. statement saying that Washington wants to make believe that remittances would not be interrupted if Cuba accepted the U.S. government's imposition to establish a different payment network than the current one.

They lie,' the statement said, explaining that for more than 20 years, the firm has invested in equipment, premises, preparation, staff training, and communications infrastructure to achieve a payment network capable of sustaining the international companies' high operational level in charge of remittances.

The release added that the 407 outlets that make up the Western Union network, with a presence in all of the country's municipalities, use the Internet for connectivity with the American company and operate based on technological integration and robust logistics processes.

None of this is achieved in 30 days; the term set unilaterally by the U.S. government for the entry into force of the new regulations of the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), says the statement.

It also reports that 70 percent of the payment points network is made up of Cuban companies included in the list of entities restricted by Washington. Even without the management of FINCIMEX's representative

of Western Union, they would be forced to close.

Those who designed the measures know very well that it would not be possible in 30 days to organize alternative solutions.' Hence, it is 'evident that the U.S. government intends to interrupt remittances to Cuba, and for that, they need to lie to the public,' the release points out.

Last October 23, the OFAC of the U.S. Department of the Treasury released a draft of a final rule. The scope of specific general authorizations related to sending remittances to the Caribbean country is scrapped.

The new provision will take effect 30 days after being published in the Federal Register, last October 27, and it would imply the closing of 407 Western Union outlets.

Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez and FINCIMEX recently denounced that the United States' application of coercive measures and the attack on remittances are aimed at harming families in the Caribbean island.

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