

# *Ex Director of Odebrecht Exempts Cuba of Corrupt Practices in Economic Negotiations*

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Havana, July 7 (RHC)-- The digital blog of the Brazilian giant O Globo has published statements given by Marcelo Odebrecht, former president of one of the largest construction companies in Latin America, to courts in which he exempted Cuba from corrupt practices.

The Uruguayan digital site, Caras y Caretas, also published his testimony, in which he assured that there was never any request for advantages by Cuban authorities in the construction of the Port of Mariel.

The Uruguayan website said that Cuban government's transactions with the Brazilian company, which invested about 900 million dollars in the Mariel special economic zone project, were all above board. In the testimony published by O Globo, and also by other media, the former director of the Brazilian company goes so far as to say that corruption in Cuba is almost zero.

Since the summer of 2015, suspicions of corruption at Brazilian state oil company Petrobras - exposed in

the investigation known as Operation Lava Jato - involved the top executives of the Odebrecht construction company.

In December 2016, a U.S. Department of Justice investigation of Odebrecht found evidence of bribery and other acts of corruption that peppered officials from 12 countries, including Argentines, Colombians and Panamanians.

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