

# *President Díaz-Canel says Cuba's health cooperation will never be profit-oriented*

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Havana, December 21 (RHC)—Cuban president Miguel Diaz-Canel reiterated Thursday that the island's cooperation in the field of health will never be mercantile, and will always be guided by the values of humanism, solidarity and internationalism.

Speaking at a ceremony to mark the official end of the Cuban Medical Brigade in Brazil's More Doctors Program, Diaz-Canel said that of the 8,471 members of the brigade who were in that country when the decision was made on November 14<sup>th</sup> not to continue participating, 7,635 completed the mission, more than 90%.

The president recalled that the initiative was born out of the huge gaps between rich and the poor in that South American country and he noted that only less than 10 percent of the positions occupied by Cubans have been covered by professionals from Brazil

'Not everyone is willing to perform the noble profession in the worst conditions,' he said.

He added that in Cuba, health professionals are trained with an attitude contrary to mercantilist calculations; with an attitude of altruism, generosity, and with a disposition to save lives without thinking about money.

He said that during the five years the medical brigade was in Brazil, some 20 thousand Cuban collaborators served 113 million 350 thousand patients in more than 3, 600 municipalities.

Díaz-Canel highlighted the work done by Cuban doctors in places of extreme poverty, a service also recognized by the Brazilian population and government.

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