Washington plans to spend $3 million in smear campaign against Cuban health assistance

Washington, August 8 (RHC)-- The United States is offering up to three million dollars to organizations willing to investigate Cuban medical missions, as part of the Trump Administration's effort to distort the essence of Cuba's solidarity cooperation with nations of the South.

According to the Cuba Money Project website, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) -- which has ties to the Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA -- will give that amount of money to groups "to investigate, compile and analyze information" related to alleged violations of human rights of Cuban health personnel working abroad.

This measure follows the State Department's decision to add Cuba to a list of countries that Washington says fail to meet minimum standards to eliminate human trafficking, despite the zero tolerance for this scourge declared by the government of Cuba.

Last July 26th, the State Department also announced visa restrictions against officials linked to Cuba's medical missions abroad.

Despite the prestige of the assistance offered by Cuban health professionals in the most varied areas of the world and the humanitarian nature of these missions, the Trump Administration attempts to tarnish its reputation, by stating that the assistance is materialized through coercive practices and labor abuse.

This is not first time that Washington has tried to undermine Cuban health missions. It previously targeted them through the implementation of the so-called Parole Program for Cuban doctors.

This mechanism, approved under George W. Bush (2001-2009) and suspended under Barack Obama (2009-2017), promoted brain drain by urging doctors and other health professionals to abandon internationalist missions and migrate to the United States through special agreements.

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