

# *Cuba Transits Favorable Hygienic-Sanitary Situation*

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Havana, December 18 (RHC-PL) -- Cuban Minister of Public Health, Roberto Morales Ojeda, has said that the country is passing through a favorable hygienic-epidemiologic situation and all conditions are given to cut dengue transmission present in some island territories.

There has been a fall in the number of aedes aegypti mosquito infection focuses as well as a reduction in dengue cases, explained Morales, during his speech before the commission of Health and Sports of the parliament in its 8th legislature.

However, he stressed Cuba should insist on sanitary education, essential for the participation of all sectors, particularly the population in this health campaign.

Risk perception is necessary as well as personal hygiene, as it is not enough what health workers can achieve regarding dengue because it is a serious illness that may even cause death, he said.

We have tools to control infection and in that sense we have taken steps forward. Greater attention is given to sanitary

problems, because control has been heightened but is still not enough, asserted Morales.

Emphasizing on a hygiene culture, we will be able to keep reducing the endemic channel and thus will have better conditions in 2015, he said.

Deputy Minister Jose Angel Portal referred to the complex international epidemiologic situation with illnesses like influenza, the Chikungunya virus, malaria, ebola, among others. Dengue, for instance affects most of the nations in the region and cholera is dormant, but still there, he said.

He recalled that cancer and cardiovascular affections are the first causes of death in the island, followed by tobacco consumption and old age (18.3 percent of Cubans are over 60 years of age).

As for acute diarrhea, there was a reduction in the number of cases, there are no provinces in epidemic

situation, nor health alarm, even if some municipalities have some incidence of these problems.

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