U.S.-Cuba Talks to Focus on Lifting Diplomatic Restrictions



Washington, January 20 (RHC) -- The first U.S. government delegation to travel to Havana since the announcement of the normalization of relations is slated to arrive between January 20 and 21 for bilateral talks on the normalization of ties starting on Wednesday.

Havana and Washington are expected to discuss eliminating bilateral restrictions on diplomatic activity as a first step toward the re-opening of embassies.

The U.S. delegation is headed by the assistant secretary of state for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Roberta Jacobson.

During her visit to the island her team will seek "to speed up the pace" of normalization announced on December 17th by Washington and Havana, U.S. government officials said Monday in a teleconference.

The talks will begin Wednesday with an exchange on migration, continuing a process that began in the mid-1990s. On Thursday, both parties will talk about the mechanics of restoring bilateral diplomatic relations more than 50 years after Washington severed ties.

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