

# *U.S. Official Acknowledges Cuba's Fight Against Drug Trafficking*

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Washington, January 28 (RHC) -- The Cuban government has effectively advanced the fight against drug trafficking organizations, which have been kept away from the island, said U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs William Brownfield.

According to a report by Cubadebate website, Brownfield said that the amount of narcotics travelling through Cuba is minimal, both destined for the United States or any other country. The fight against drug trafficking was one of the issues for possible cooperation addressed during the first round of talks between Cuba and the United States, held in Havana on January 21st and 22nd.

The U.S. official considered it useful to expand the channels of communications to prevent the passage of suspect boats or planes, but also said it can be done in an operative manner by the coordination between the U.S. Coast Guard Service and the Cuban border patrols, not needing a formal policy by both governments.

As for the rest of the Caribbean, Brownfield said that as the fight against drugs in Mexico and Central America advances, it is expected that drug trafficking organizations will look for alternative routes in the future.

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