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Cuban Health Ministry talks about the HIV program to spy on Cuba

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To use the epidemic of HIV-AIDS as a pretext to spy and intervene politically in a country is a monstrosity expressed the high official of the Cuban Health Ministry regarding the covert program of the United States that used the pretext for the prevention of this scourge to encourage a rebellion in the Island.



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Associated press revealed this week details of a program of the U.S. Agency for International Development

(USAID) that used young people from Costa Rica, Peru and Venezuela to travel to the island and obtain intelligence information on the workshops against HIV (<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/us-sent-latin-youth-undercover-anti-cuba-plot> [1]).

With a millionaire cost the USAID program operated from October 2009 to 2011 through a contract with Creative Associates International ([www.creativeassociatesinternational.com](http://www.creativeassociatesinternational.com)

[2]),

a company established in Washington . According to another AP report the company developed a Cuban twitter – a network of text messages known as ZunZuneo destined also for political subversion.

(<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/us-secretly-created-cuban-twitter-stir-unrest>

[3]).

In declarations to La Jornada, María Isela Lantero Abreu, head of the Department of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV-AIDS of the Public Health Ministry regretted these actions that risk the credibility of exchange health programs between the United States and Cuba and the rest of the world.

De humanizing programs

Proof of the degree of de humanizing political programs of change of regime of government (by the United States) in difference to the attitude of citizens and institutions of that country that have generously helped Cuba to prevent the epidemic, she explained.

She recalled that not few of the first contacts of HI, causative agent of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) were treated with medicines donated by Non Governmental organizations and U.S. citizens when Cuba still did not produce anti retroviral drugs and thanks to them some persons are still alive.

With international aid such as from the Dutch Humanist Institute of Cooperation and Development and Medicines sans frontier, the Cuban health system not only makes efforts to prevent the infection but to improve the quality of life of the HIV positive persons to prevent them contacting the disease or die.

The USAID project is an offense to persons and institutes that cooperate nobly to improve our health, she expressed.

“What is a paradox – she added – is that they use the excuse of preventing the epidemic to change the government of the country that has the lowest rates in the region, less even than the United States and Canada”.

Cuba invests more than 100 million dollars a year in programs for the promotion and prevention as well as for the application of what is known as retroviral cocktails that have allowed more than 90% of HIV positive persons to survive. The increased surveillance and propaganda messages against sexual transmitted diseases, in general – on the radio and television – and through discreet telephone lines, propaganda to control expansion of the virus.

Even though each year new cases are diagnosed in the island, the epidemic has a low prevalence in the Cuban population, with a rate of 0.2% (In Latin America this rate is 0.4% and in the Caribbean, 0.9%) In the United States and Canada this rate is 0.6% in young people between the ages of 15 to 19; while Cuba has the lowest rate in Latin America by 0.02%, according to Lantero, the nation is making an effort to achieve certification of the first step in the genetic elimination of the transmission of syphilis and HIV, it is possible because we have been battling for 20 years in the prevention of this pandemic and clearly now that our population is aware that the United States manipulates this right in such a sensitive and private campaign for any person?