
Work of Cuban Experts Fighting Ebola Highlighted in Brussels

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Cuban medical brigades working in the three countries affected by Ebola in West Africa, attended 1,728 patients and saved 356 lives, said today Marcia Cobas, Deputy Minister of Health of the island. In each of these nations Cuban specialists are working along with professionals from other countries, which shows the effort and international decision to fight this terrible disease, Cobas said speaking at the High Level Conference on Ebola in session in Brussels.

'Our common action is an example of solidarity and dedication to these peoples that besides the epidemic of Ebola, face social, economic, infrastructure and human resources deficiencies that limit their ability to face any emergency situation,' she said.

'International cooperation should be maintained to help strengthen their health systems', said the expert, who also called to keep mobilizing until the epidemic is controlled and the World Health Organization declares so.

She also noted the need to define the post Ebola tasks to be developed, which she said should be directed primarily toward strengthening health systems in these three countries, community work that allows education to the population and preparing to face similar epidemiological situations.

'In this endeavor you can count on Cuba,' she said.

The Cuban medical help began last October, when the first 165 professionals arrived to Sierra Leone. Other 53 specialists arrived in Liberia and 38 in Guinea a few days later.

Since then 256 employees are active in health institutions equipped for the management and treatment of Ebola, Cuban deputy minister said.

At least 80 delegations attend the conference, which has among its objectives to review the status of the epidemic

and develop a long term strategy to support the recovery of the affected countries.

Dr. Marcia Cobas also attended the second meeting of health ministers of the Africa Caribbean Pacific Group, held in Brussels on February 25th and 26th.
