

Cuba Holds New International Course on Ebola

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The "Pedro Kouri" Tropical Medicine Institute (IPK) in Havana will host from today to Saturday, Feb. 14, of the Second International Course on Ebola. Epidemiology of diseases by Ebola virus, clinical and laboratory aspects, biosafety, organization of health services, logistic assurance, human factors in severe epidemics and social communication, are some of the issues included in the agenda of the event.

Executives and experts from Cuban Medical Services, of the sector's command and epidemiology, as well as representatives of Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Barbados, are attending the meeting to be held through theoretical-practical classes, with participation methods and keynote speeches.

The first course for the prevention and confrontation of Ebola virus was held in November 2014, in the presence of some 100 participants from 19 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Participants, in addition of receiving theoretical classes, worked in the IPK training area, visited the isolation unity, and carried out practical classes of dressing and undressing with personal protective equipment.

The initiative was the result of the Technical Meeting of experts and executives for the prevention of that epidemic, taken place in Cuba on October 29-30, where the establishment of the epidemiological surveillance in centers destined for people from areas of Ebola transmission, with risk of having the disease was also proposed.

The meeting evidenced the regional countries' willingness to work united in confronting the epidemic that has claimed almost 5,000 lives in Western Africa.

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