
Cuba and the U.S.A. to Talk about Migration and Struggle vs. Drug Trafficking

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The United States and Cuba will hold talks as on Monday on migration and the struggle against drug trafficking, within the process of normalization of their bilateral relations, as informed on Thursday by the State Department and confirmed a by a source of the Cuban Foreign Ministry, the Cubadebate website reported.

Representatives of the two governments will meet on Monday at the State Department in Washington to maintain their biannual migration talks, and on Tuesday they will hold the second round of their dialogue on the struggle against drug trafficking, also in the U.S. capital, the Cubadebate Web site highlights.

Cuba will reiterate its opposition to the Cuban Adjustment Act and related regulations, like the dry feet-wet feet policy and the Parole Program for Cuban medical professionals, which encourages illegal emigration to the United States, confirmed the local Foreign Ministry.

The foundation of the migration dialogue between the two countries lies in the agreements of 1994 and 1995, by way of which the U.S. and Cuba committed themselves to maintain a "safe, legal and orderly" immigration and meet every six months to review the implementation of these agreements.

The last session of the migration dialogue was held in January, 2015, in Havana, and the one corresponding to mid 2015 was postponed until now because it would have coincided with the reopening of embassies in the respective capitals, adds an official note by the State Department.

According to the text, the Cuban delegation will be headed on Monday by the Director General of the United States Office of the Foreign Ministry, Josefina Vidal; and that of the United States by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. for South America and Cuba, Alex Lee.

On Tuesday, officials of the Cuban government and of several U.S. agencies -the State Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Coast Guard-

will hold a meeting on drug trafficking.

The meeting will focus on "discussing ways to stop the illegal flow of narcotics to and from Cuba and the United States, and exploring ways in which the two countries can cooperate in this matter," reads the note by the State Department.
