



VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

July 21, 2020

Dr. Carissa F. Etienne
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 23rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Director Etienne,

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC), in association with Cuba Archive and Global Liberty Alliance, advocate for the thousands who have suffered grave human rights violations through Cuba's Communist Medical Brigades. We applaud the recently announced independent investigation into the Mais Medicos program that allegedly subjected thousands of Cuban medical workers to human trafficking and forced labor. It is necessary to ensure accountability for wrongs committed against victims and to repair trust in PAHO.

We stand ready to provide assistance through investigative efforts, documentation, and victim and expert testimonies, much of which we have already completed¹ as part of our own investigation into human rights violations committed under Cuba's Communist Medical Brigades.

We appreciate your leadership in this matter and thank you in advance for your efforts to ensure full accountability for the abuses committed against Cuban nationals who participated in Mais Medicos in Brazil.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or identify an opportunity for us to provide assistance.

Sincerely,

Marion Smith
Executive Director
Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation

CC: Pan American Health Organization's Executive Committee

¹ For more information please visit the Cuba Salud website at www.cubasalud.org a coalition project of Cuba Archive, the Global Liberty Alliance, and the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation.