



Reference: MCH-004/18

June 13, 2018

**MACCIH-OAS/UFECIC-MP Team Presents Fourth Case of Integrated Criminal Investigation: "PANDORA"**

Following an investigation carried out by the Integrated Investigation and Criminal Prosecution Team, made up of experts of the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras of the Organization of American States (**MACCIH-OAS**) and attorneys and investigators of the Special Prosecutor's Unit against Corruption and Impunity of the Public Prosecutor's Ministry (**UFECIC-MP**) as well as the Prosecutor's Office for Transparency and Fighting Public Corruption (**FETCCOP-MP**), the indictments against **thirty-eight defendants, among them deputies, government officials and other individuals were presented before the Supreme Court, for the alleged crimes of ABUSE OF AUTHORITY, FRAUD, EMBEZZLEMENT, MONEY LAUNDERING, FALSIFICATION AND USE OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS to the detriment of THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC TRUST AND THE ECONOMY OF THE STATE OF HONDURAS.**

The alleged crimes were denounced by **PIETRO DIBATTISTA**, Italian investor and Honorary Consul of Italy in Roatán, Honduras, following news disseminated in radio and digital media, referring to the misuse of the funds of the **DIBATTISTA FOUNDATION**, in atypical and unauthorized operations. Added to this was the Special Audit carried out by the **SUPERIOR COURT OF AUDITORS** on the State Secretariat in the Office of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG).

The MACCIH-OAS proposed to the Public Prosecutor's Ministry that the case be remitted to the UFECIC to be investigated by an integrated investigation and criminal prosecution team, finding sufficient indicators that public funds meant for agricultural, agro-industrial, and horticultural projects in favor of young mothers, to strengthen agro-food policies in Olancho, Intibucá and Colon, improvement in the seeding capacity of basic grains in the communities of Yorito, Victoria and Sulaco, the farmers' field school in the department of Francisco Morazán, La Paz, Coluteca, el Paraíso, Ocotepeque, Valle, Intibucá, Gracias a Dios, Comayagua, had been used to finance the political campaigns of both the Partido Nacional and the Partido Liberal in 2013 and other personal expenses for a total of **282, 016, 175.00 lempiras** (nearly 12 million dollars).

Said funds came from the **SAG** and the Finance Secretariat. To do so, two foundations were used: **Todos Somos Hondureños and Dibattista**, to which were given the funds to carry out said projects, which were in the end deposited in accounts of individuals and candidates for deputies, mayors and aldermen from the Partido Nacional (PN), Partido Frente Amplio (FAPER) and directly to the coffers of the Partido Liberal (PL), with these being the main findings:

1. A part of the funds were used to finance the "tarjeta cachureca"
2. Delivery of funds to campaign coordinators of the Partido Nacional.
3. Resources that were used on election day November 24, 2013.
4. Purchase of two offices in the Metrópolis building.
5. Payment of loans of the **Consejo Central Ejecutivo del Partido Liberal (CCEPL) in the amount of 99,030,000.00 lempiras.**

The Special Prosecutor's Unit against Corruption and Impunity of the Public Prosecutor's Ministry (UFECIC-MP), in view of the seriousness of the charges investigated, has requested arrest warrants for the accused and seizure of assets.

This joint action demonstrates once again the commitment of the MACCIH-OAS to continue promoting the fight against corruption through State institutions, in strict compliance with the mandate conferred on us by the Agreement signed on January 19, 2016, between the Government of the Republic of Honduras and the General Secretariat of the OAS.

**WE CONTINUE WORKING!**

### ORIGIN OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS

The **State Secretariat in the Office of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG)** signed seven agreements, one addendum and a duplicate disbursement with the **foundations Dibattista and Todos Somos Hondureños**, as seen in this table:

No.	Fecha	Monto	Proyecto	Fundación
1	14/12/2011	15,000,000.00	"Convenio de Acceso de Oportunidades para Jóvenes Rurales"	Dibattista
2	14/12/2011	15,000,000.00	"Convenio de Apoyo para la Implementación de un programa de capacitación de proyectos agropecuarios, agroindustriales, y hortícolas a favor de madres jóvenes".	Todos somos Honduras
3	23/07/2012	40,000,000.00	Convenio "Desarrollo Para Programas de Emprendedurismo Agrícola Para Fortalecer las Políticas Agroalimentarias en los Departamentos de Olancho, Intibucá y Colon.	Todos somos Honduras
	14/02/2013	35,000,000.00	Desembolso duplicado, se canceló en el Convenio Anterior	
4	15/03/2013	9,000,000.00	Asistencia técnica para el mejoramiento en la capacidad para la siembra de granos básicos en las comunidades de Yorito, Victoria y Sulaco del depto. De Yoro.	Todos somos Honduras
5	18/03/2013	64,381,175.00	Convenio Desarrollando la Competitividad Agrícola	Dibattista
6	16/10/2013	27,361,000.00	Convenio escuela de campo para agricultores	Todos somos Honduras
7	07/11/2013	50,000,000.00	Convenio de micro riego por goteo, departamento de Francisco Morazán, La paz, Choluteca, el Paraíso, Ocotepeque, Valle, Intibucá, Gracias a Dios, Comayagua.	Todos somos Honduras
	08/11/2013	16,274,000.00	Adendum No.1 Convenio escuela de campo para agricultores	Todos somos Honduras
		<b>282,016,175.00</b>		

More information on MACCIH is available at [www.oas.org/maccih](http://www.oas.org/maccih).