

**17th SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON PROGRAM, BUDGET, AND ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**NON-STATE ACTORS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO**

**Introduction**

1. At the 55th Directing Council, Member States of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) adopted the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA) via Resolution CD55.R3 (2016). Through this resolution, the PAHO Member States specifically replaced the Principles Governing Relations between the Pan American Health Organization and Nongovernmental Organizations with FENSA. They also requested the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (the Bureau) to implement FENSA in a manner consistent with the constitutional legal framework of PAHO and to report annually to the Executive Committee through its Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration (the Subcommittee).
  2. “Official relations” is a privilege that the Executive Committee may grant to nongovernmental organizations, international business associations, and philanthropic foundations that have had, and continue to have, sustained and systematic engagement with PAHO that is assessed by both parties as being mutually beneficial. Entities in official relations with PAHO should be regional in membership and/or scope and should have a constitution or similar basic document, an established headquarters, a governing body, and an administrative structure.
  3. Official relations are based on a three-year plan for collaboration with PAHO that has been developed and agreed on jointly by the non-State actor and PAHO. The three-year plan is structured in accordance with the PAHO Strategic Plan and cannot be primarily of a commercial or for-profit nature.
  4. PAHO’s Executive Committee, through the Subcommittee, considers applications for admitting non-State actors into official relations. It is also responsible for reviewing PAHO collaboration with each non-State actor in official relations every three years, at which time it may decide on the desirability of maintaining official relations or defer the decision to the following year. In addition, the Executive Committee may decide to discontinue official relations with a non-State actor if it considers that such relations are no longer appropriate or necessary in light of changing programs or other circumstances.
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Similarly, the Executive Committee may discontinue official relations if an organization no longer meets the criteria that applied at the time the relations were established, fails to provide updated information or report on the collaboration, or fails to fulfill its part in the agreed program of collaboration.

5. To support the Executive Committee in fulfilling this mandate, the Bureau examines the applications received for admission into official relations with PAHO, as well as proposals from those non-State actors set to renew their designation, in order to ensure that the established criteria and other requirements are met. The Bureau examines the collaboration with each non-State actor over the past three years and the jointly agreed plans for the next three years. The Bureau also identifies which of the four specific policies and operational procedures included in FENSA (i.e., those related to nongovernmental organizations, private sector entities, philanthropic foundations, or academic institutions) applies to each non-State actor. If a non-State actor appears to be subject to the influence of private sector entities to the extent that it should itself be considered a private sector entity, it will be invited to make the necessary adjustments to its policies, governance, or funding prior to its next triennial review.

6. On the basis of the foregoing, the Subcommittee is invited to consider the application for admission into official relations from two non-State actors and to review the collaboration with eleven non-State actors in the context of their triennial review.

#### **Application of Non-State Actors for Admission into Official Relations with PAHO**

7. Based on its review of the application for admission into official relations submitted by the non-State actors Coalition for Americas' Health (CLAS, Spanish acronym) and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), the Bureau considered that the applicant organizations meet the requirements and are therefore presented for consideration by the Executive Committee through the Subcommittee.

8. Annex A provides information on the application for admission into official relations with PAHO from these non-State actors.

#### **Triennial Review of Non-State Actors in Official Relations with PAHO**

9. Currently, there are 28 non-State actors in official relations with PAHO. The Bureau conducts an assessment of each entity when its official relations status comes up for renewal, with approximately one-third of the non-State actors to be assessed each year. In 2023, eleven entities are up for renewal: American Heart Association (AHA), American Public Health Association (APHA), American Society for Microbiology (ASM), Basic Health International (BHI), Global Oncology (GO), Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS, Spanish acronym), March of Dimes, Pan-American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools (PAFAMS), Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals (FEPPEN, Spanish acronym), United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), and World Association for Sexual Health (WAS).

10. As a result of its review, the Bureau recommends that the Executive Committee continue official relations with all eleven of the non-State actors up for renewal.

11. Detailed supplementary background documents on each non-State actor mentioned above will be provided separately for consideration by the Subcommittee.

12. Annex B provides information on PAHO collaboration with the eleven entities that are recommended for renewal. Annex C presents a progress report on the status of ongoing relations with each of the remaining non-State actors in official relations with PAHO. Annex D provides the schedule of Subcommittee reviews of all non-State actors in official relations with PAHO.

**Action by the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration**

13. The Subcommittee is invited to consider recommending that the Executive Committee:

- a) Admit two new non-State actors into official relations with PAHO: Coalition for Americas' Health (CLAS) and the International Diabetes Federation (IDF).
- b) Commend the following eleven non-State actors for their continuing contribution to the achievement of PAHO objectives and maintain PAHO official relations with these non-State actors: American Heart Association (AHA), American Public Health Association (APHA), American Society for Microbiology (ASM), Basic Health International (BHI), Global Oncology (GO), Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS), March of Dimes, Pan-American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools (PAFAMS), Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals (FEPPEN), United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), and World Association for Sexual Health (WAS).

Annexes

**Annex A**

**APPLICATIONS OF NON-STATE ACTORS FOR  
ADMISSION INTO OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO**

**The Pan American Sanitary Bureau recommends admission into official relations with PAHO for the following two non-State actors.**

***Coalition for Americas' Health***

1. The Coalition for America's Health (CLAS, Spanish acronym), established in 2011, is a not-for-profit umbrella organization of over 200 non-governmental organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean, whose purpose is to prevent and control non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the Region of the Americas by promoting an environment conducive to health, well-being, and social and economic development.
  2. CLAS promotes healthy, sustainable, and equitable food systems, as well as reduction in tobacco, nicotine, and alcohol use; addresses the prevention and control of hypertension and diabetes; strengthens civil society organizations in the Region; and promotes consensus for a regional agenda on NCDs from the civil society perspective.
  3. Over the past two years, CLAS worked closely with PAHO on the prevention and control of NCDs, including healthy nutrition and tobacco control. The main areas of collaboration have been:
    - a) *Reducing obesity and overweight:* As part of its advocacy efforts, CLAS organized teams and coalitions of civil society organizations in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Panama to promote front-of-package labeling (FOPL). CLAS provided capacity building to over 700 participants in Central America on industry monitoring, mapping of regulations, coalition building, and fostering advocacy skills. CLAS also developed a policy brief on FOPL for decision makers.
    - b) *Tobacco control:* CLAS led the development of a policy brief on fiscal policies for the financial sector entitled Políticas Fiscales y Enfermedades No Transmisibles. CLAS, PAHO, and Centro de Estudios en Protección Social y Economía de la Salud de la Universidad Icesi y la Fundación Valle del Lili (PROESA) en Colombia signed a letter for co-publication of this brief. CLAS also supported civil society in Bolivia to promote the passage of regulation for the legislation on tobacco control approved in 2020.
    - c) *NCD prevention and control:* In 2021, CLAS, its members, and its allies started to develop the Regional NCD Agenda 2022-2030: Towards Post-Pandemic Recuperation and Resilience in Latin America to Prevent and Control NCDs. PAHO regional advisors and NCD focal points in the PAHO/WHO Representative (PWR) Offices were actively engaged in this dialogue, which was a milestone of the new agenda.
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- d) *Reducing cardiovascular diseases:* PAHO invited CLAS to write for the HEARTS supplement of the Pan American Journal of Public Health, on the role of civil society in hypertension control.
  - e) *Alcohol control:* In 2021, CLAS helped PAHO to further disseminate the “Live Better, Drink Less” campaign in six countries, seeking to increase awareness on the harmful effects of alcohol on health.
4. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between CLAS and PAHO:
- a) Strengthen civil society’s capacity to promote effective policies for preventing NCDs through the development and implementation of capacity building events and tools, such as industry monitoring, communications planning, development of advocacy strategies, and mapping of stakeholders and regulations.
  - b) Support the creation of civil society coalitions, where they do not already exist, by convening interested parties, working with local leaders to identify priorities, drafting a case for support, and so on.
  - c) Promote improved communication to support policy change. CLAS is planning to organize a regional communication space to foster synergies, empower local advocates, and articulate efforts of various groups.

### ***International Diabetes Federation***

5. The International Diabetes Federation (IDF), established in 1950, is an umbrella organization of over 240 national diabetes associations in 160 countries and territories. Its mission is to promote diabetes care, prevention, and a cure worldwide. IDF is engaged in action to tackle diabetes from the local to the global level, from programs at community level to worldwide awareness and advocacy initiatives.

6. IDF seeks to increase access to and improve the quality of care currently available. It does this through advocacy, education of people with diabetes to help them manage their condition, campaigns for public awareness and health improvement, and the exchange of high-quality information about diabetes.

7. Over the past two years, IDF and PAHO have been working closely to improve diabetes prevention and control in the Region of the Americas. The following activities have been carried out jointly:

- a) A consultation was held with IDF national members in the Region of the Americas on their existing collaboration with PWR Offices, and on the use of the WHO HEARTS technical package, the PAHO Chronic Care Passport, and the Regional Revolving Fund for Strategic Public Health Supplies Fund (Strategic Fund).
- b) In January 2021, IDF and PAHO signed a Framework Agreement in order to strengthen ongoing collaboration. The agreement supports the implementation of

joint activities to improve diabetes prevention and control in the Region. Such activities include the development of communications and diabetes-related materials, a virtual course on diabetes, awareness-raising webinars, and media training for journalists on diabetes prevention and control.

- c) PAHO and IDF developed joint webinars on a myriad of topics, including: the impact of COVID-19 on diabetes care in South and Central America (with over 1,500 attendees) and in North America and the Caribbean (with over 800 attendees); and the prospects for increasing access to diabetes care in the Region.

8. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between IDF and PAHO:

- a) Promote HEARTS package D-module and conduct diabetes evidence workshops. The IDF network will promote the use of the D-module of the HEARTS package on the diagnosis and management of type 2 diabetes in national programs. One joint virtual or face-to-face workshop will be organized to disseminate scientific evidence on diabetes.
- b) Organize a joint webinar and develop educational materials on diabetes. One joint webinar on relevant diabetes-related topics will be organized. IDF will provide input and disseminate PAHO public educational materials on diabetes.
- c) Monitor and report quality of care indicators and use of the Chronic Care Passport. The IDF network will advocate for the national monitoring and reporting of diabetes quality of care indicators. An IDF survey will be conducted with its members to report on the use of the quality-of-care model and of the Chronic Care Passport in the Region.
- d) Increase access to diagnosis and medicines, including insulin. A methodology will be developed to gather national data on access to and affordability of insulin in the Region and may be pilot-tested in one country. The IDF network will help promote the Strategic Fund at the national level.

## Annex B

### REVIEW OF EXISTING COLLABORATION WITH NON-STATE ACTORS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO

**The Pan American Sanitary Bureau recommends continuation of official relations status for the following eleven non-State actors.**

#### *American Heart Association*

1. The American Heart Association (AHA) is a non-profit professional and public health voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke through research, education, and advocacy. AHA's mission is to be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives. AHA's main fields of work are public health education; research; public policy and research; emergency cardiovascular care training; professional education and science; and quality care programs in cardiovascular diseases and stroke.
  2. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between AHA and PAHO:
    - a) The training modules of the online program on Social Marketing for Public Health for the prevention and control of NCDs were finalized, with a focus on salt reduction. AHA and PAHO promoted and launched this training, whose online version is available at the Virtual Campus for Public Health . During the fiscal year 2021-2022, over 15,000 participants registered for the online program and 80 participants engaged across two cohort classes. The first cohort created projects at country level. The second cohort, which had the support of the Ministry of Health, secured funding for the implementation of the campaign in two countries.
    - b) In 2020, a two-day virtual regional workshop was hosted entitled School Health in Latin America: Intersectoral NCD Prevention and Management, with a focus on childhood health and related risk factors. This was a partnership between NCD Child, the Coalition for Americas' Health (CLAS), and AHA. The workshop provided a forum for focused regional- and country-level knowledge sharing and collaboration on school health strategies for NCDs, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which included support of nutrition policies. Proceedings of the workshop were developed and subsequent work followed with youth advocates in the Region of the Americas and globally, to continue bringing urgency to the nutrition policies impacting young people.
  3. The following three activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between AHA and PAHO:
    - a) Support country implementation teams on social marketing campaigns through the provision of tutors, development of case studies, and funding; continue evaluation and monitoring efforts; and disseminate best practices.
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- b) Collaborate to increase awareness on pregnancy risk factors associated with NCDs and develop collateral materials to support educational efforts.
- c) Build capacity around NCD risk factors to create health-promoting environments within the school setting, with engagement of Ministries of Health and Ministries of Education.

***American Public Health Association***

4. The American Public Health Association (APHA), founded in 1872, is an organization for professionals in the field of public health and allied professions committed to improving the health of the public and achieving equity in health status. APHA seeks to advance the health of all people through prevention, reduction of health disparities, and promotion of wellness.

5. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between APHA and PAHO:

- a) *APHA Annual Meetings:* PAHO and APHA collaborated on activities to successfully raise awareness of public health issues within APHA Annual Meetings, in 2020 (virtual), 2021 (virtual), and 2022 (in-person). These activities included co-hosting scientific sessions each year, highlighting various public health issues faced in the Region, and the presentation of a PAHO exhibit at the Public Health Expo (2022).
- b) *Translations project:* To increase the access of Spanish-speaking audiences to peer-reviewed scientific information, updated chapters in the Control of Communicable Diseases Manual were translated to Spanish (Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, 20th Edition; Control of Communicable Diseases Manual: Laboratory Procedures; and Control of Communicable Diseases Manual: Clinical Practice).

6. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between APHA and PAHO:

- a) *APHA Annual Meetings:* At every Annual Meeting, APHA and PAHO will work together to co-host two scientific sessions highlighting public health issues in the Region of the Americas. Additionally, a PAHO exhibit will be presented at the Public Health Expo to disseminate and increase visibility for PAHO information and resources.
- b) *Publication partnerships and translation project:* APHA's American Journal of Public Health will continue to partner with the Pan American Journal of Public Health to translate selected articles for publication in the latter journal on a periodic basis. Additionally, the two organizations will continue to work together to translate relevant publications into Spanish.



- c) *Joint work on key public health issues:* APHA and PAHO will proactively identify opportunities for collaboration that may strengthen impact and advance mutual goals. Such activities may include training, webinars, and engagement in events such as World Health Day.

***American Society for Microbiology***

7. The American Society for Microbiology (ASM), founded in 1899, brings together more than 47,000 scientists and health professionals. Its mission is to promote and advance the microbial sciences through conferences, publications, certifications, and educational opportunities. It also enhances laboratory capacity around the globe through training and resources. ASM provides a network linking scientists in academia, industry, and clinical settings and promotes a deeper understanding of the microbial sciences for diverse audiences.

8. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between ASM and PAHO:

- a) Improve the diagnosis of whooping cough, ASM worked in collaboration with PAHO and Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) and in close consultation with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to identify reference laboratories in Brazil and Mexico, through their respective networks. This work included the diagnosis of *Bordetella pertussis* (*B. pertussis*) by conventional microbiological tests, molecular methods, and susceptibility testing, thus optimizing epidemiological surveillance for this infection.
- b) A workshop on *B. pertussis* was conducted in Mexico. Participants included members from reference laboratories and in Brazil and Mexico, as well as from the CDC, the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), and the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST), among others.

9. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between ASM and PAHO:

- a) Continue the existing collaboration between ASM and PAHO, in close consultation with the CDC, of working on reference laboratories in Brazil and Mexico through their respective networks.
- b) Improve the diagnosis of whooping cough. The primary focus in this regard will be the standardization of in vitro antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) to determine the effectiveness of macrolides—an antimicrobial used to treat whooping cough—against *B. pertussis*. The developed AST protocol will be submitted to CLSI and EUCAST for their review and consideration, thus contributing to the standardization and dissemination of the methodology in Latin America and in the Caribbean region, as well as in other interested countries in the Region.

- c) ASM, in collaboration with PAHO and BWH, will disseminate recommended methodologies for detection, diagnosis, and surveillance of *B. pertussis* in Brazil and Mexico. This will contribute to the expansion of the *B. pertussis* network and eventually improve lab capacity and methodology transfers to other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

***Basic Health International***

10. Basic Health International (BHI) is committed to eliminating cervical cancer globally by conducting cutting-edge research on early prevention and treatment, implementing sustainable strategies that can be scaled up in limited-resource settings, and leading advocacy for evidence-based strategies and policies.

11. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between BHI and PAHO:

- a) A comprehensive in-country assessment of cervical cancer prevention programs was conducted in Antigua and Barbuda, evaluating the readiness of five clinics and laboratories. A report of the visit was delivered in person to the Chief Medical Officer of Antigua and Barbuda.
- b) A comprehensive introductory training on control and prevention of cervical cancer was developed and implemented for involved healthcare staff and personnel from the Ministry of Health of Antigua and Barbuda.
- c) A more specialized virtual training was delivered to the personnel of the Ministry of Health of Antigua and Barbuda to prepare them for the implementation of a nation-wide Human Papillomavirus (HPV) screening program.
- d) In-person training on the implementation of HPV testing was conducted for healthcare providers in Antigua and Barbuda. The training focused on readying involved key staff for conducting the HPV screening pilot program on 1,500 women across the five clinics previously mentioned.
- e) Hands-on training on the use of thermal ablation devices and treatment was delivered to medical staff in two countries (Antigua and Barbuda, and El Salvador).

12. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between BHI and PAHO:

- a) Scale up cervical cancer screening efforts in Antigua and Barbuda until screening is fully incorporated as part of the country's health care services.
- b) Pilot the implementation of a cervical cancer screening and treatment program in three other countries in the Region of the Americas. Under consideration are Belize, the Dominican Republic, and other countries of the Caribbean.
- c) Conduct in-country assessment of cervical cancer prevention programs. Joint mission teams will conduct comprehensive assessments and assist with the

development of cervical cancer prevention plans as part of the Plan of Action for Cervical Cancer Prevention and Control 2018-2030 (Document CD56/9).

- d) Provide training for healthcare professionals to strengthen cervical cancer screening and treatment programs. Training topics will include basic anatomy of the female reproductive system, misconceptions about sexually transmitted diseases, natural history of HPV and cervical cancer, cervical cancer risk factors, screening methods and cervical precancer treatments, and guidelines for cervical cancer management.

### ***Global Oncology***

13. Global Oncology (GO) is committed to bringing the best in cancer care to underserved patients around the world. GO collaborates across geographic, professional, and academic borders to build capacity for health systems; educate patients, caregivers, and the general public; and mobilize the global cancer community in order to stem the growing tide of cancer in low- and middle-income countries and resource-limited settings.

14. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between GO and PAHO:

- a) Didactic and hands-on refresher training on chemotherapy preparation and administration was provided to clinical staff in Belize, with a focus on the latest standard operating procedures.
- b) Virtual training on general medical oncology and various specialty topics in cancer care delivery was offered to health care professionals from a range of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries.
- c) Technical assistance was provided in the development of the Belize Comprehensive Cancer Plan 2022-2026.

15. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between GO and PAHO:

- a) Didactic and hands-on trainings on medical oncology for clinical staff of emerging and/or established public oncology programs in selected countries in the Region.
- b) Workshops on the principles of cancer patient navigation, drawing on a detailed case study of a novel patient navigation program developed by GO in Belize.
- c) Technical assistance to national cancer control planning efforts in selected countries in the Region, and guidance on developing clinical operations and patient navigation systems to enhance diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients.

### ***Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering***

16. The Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS, Spanish acronym) is a technical and scientific organization that brings together the principal institutions of professionals and students dedicated to environmental

preservation, health, and sanitation in the Region of the Americas. Its mission is to promote public health and the quality of life of the peoples of the Americas and to protect and preserve the environment, through coordinated actions in sanitary engineering and the environmental sciences, as well as other disciplines concerned with human development.

17. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between AIDIS and PAHO:

- a) Dissemination, in various events, of the progress made in countries of the Region towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and of the regional framework for water security and sanitation.
- b) Cooperation in the assessment of water and sanitation in health facilities affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota in Central America.
- c) Evaluation of water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions in health facilities in six countries of the Region, following the PAHO/AIDIS protocol.
- d) During the COVID-19 pandemic, development and dissemination of messages on risk prevention measures related to water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management.
- e) Training on emergency and disaster response focusing on topics related to water and sanitation.
- f) Preparation of a primer on water, sanitation, and hygiene management during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- g) Participation in events during Inter-American Water Day and Inter-American Air Quality Day, with webinars and high-quality technical meetings.
- h) Formation of a round table on the conservation of the Amazon, with the participation of Brazil, Peru, and Venezuela.

18. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between AIDIS and PAHO:

- a) Advise on the review and socialization of progress towards the SDGs.
- b) Assess water, sanitation, and hygiene situation in health facilities in six countries.
- c) Plan a regional meeting on water and sanitation in health facilities of the six countries undergoing assessments.
- d) Advise on the construction of environmentally responsible and resilient communities, in light of the environmental determinants of health. This will be accomplished through the organization of four workshops (one per subregion) to disseminate water and sanitation safety plans and one workshop on water and sanitation technologies.
- e) Socialize the water security and sanitation framework in four subregions.

- f) Update the 2010 Regional Evaluation on Urban Solid Waste Management in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- g) Conduct training on water and sanitation for emergency and disaster response.
- h) Organize the AIDIS/PAHO pre-congress symposium and participate in the development of presentations and technical panels at national, regional, and inter-American congresses on water, sanitation, and hygiene.
- i) Prepare and update primers and technical standards for water quality, sanitation and environment, climate change, and risk and disaster management.
- j) Participate in Inter-American Water Day and Inter-American Air Quality Day at regional and national levels.
- k) Strengthen and participate in technical working groups, in the six countries of the Amazon and the South American Chaco, for actions that promote good practices concerning water, sanitation, hygiene, and climate change.

### ***March of Dimes***

19. The March of Dimes is dedicated to improving the health outcomes of mothers and babies. Its mission is to prevent birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality by helping to improve the health of mothers and babies through research and medical support as well as community services, education, and advocacy.

20. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between March of Dimes and PAHO:

- a) Participation in assessments and action planning aimed at strengthening surveillance of birth defects in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- b) Initial desk review on the availability of surveillance systems and policies on rare diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- c) Advocacy activities around birth defects and preterm birth in the Region during the commemoration of World Birth Defects Day, on 3 March, and World Prematurity Day, on 17 November.
- d) Provision of information and knowledge for the development of PAHO clinical guidelines for the care of small and sick newborns, and support of its dissemination.

21. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between March of Dimes and PAHO:

- a) Organize the 10th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World, to be held in Santiago, Chile from 1-4 March 2023, aimed at strengthening surveillance, prevention, and care of birth defects in lower- and middle-income countries of the Region.

- b) Conduct advocacy related to birth defects and preterm birth in the Region during the commemoration of World Birth Defects Day, on 3 March, and World Prematurity Day, on 17 November.
- c) Strengthen surveillance of birth defects and estimates of the burden of disease due to birth defects, in Latin America and the Caribbean countries, by sharing lessons learned in surveillance and featuring country-level data on birth defects.
- d) Build evidence on rare diseases, in Latin America and in the Caribbean, to include data on prevalence at the regional and country level, regulatory frameworks, and clinical instruments for screening, diagnosis, and treatment.
- e) Preparation of a proposal for a future update of the regional evaluation of municipal solid waste management in Latin America and the Caribbean (2010), scheduled with the Inter-American Development Bank for 2023.

***Pan-American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools***

22. The Pan-American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools (PAFAMS) is an academic organization that works in conjunction with national associations of medical schools throughout the Region. Since its founding, in 1962, PAFAMS has pursued its mission to improve the quality of medical education through academic and research activities.

23. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the work plan for collaboration between PAFAMS and PAHO:

- a) An expert technical team was formed to address the transformation of medical education. Based on the Cartagena Declaration, the team established seven critical aspects of curricular reform processes, which were the basis of a second stage in the support and promotion of best practices in medical education.
- b) Nine videoconferences were held on the transformation of medical education focused on primary health care, with emphasis on underserved areas and vulnerable populations. Directors and teachers from various medical schools participated. Topics addressed included medical competencies, primary health care, evaluation, accreditation, and distance education.

24. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between PAFAMS and PAHO:

- a) Promote excellence in medical education by establishing training programs for deans, enhancing teacher and student mobility, and providing regional support for national processes.
- b) Strengthen medical training by identifying and increasing visibility for training experiences with a focus on primary health care, especially in rural, remote, and underserved areas.

- c) Promote capacity building in universities—medical schools in particular—to address the development of public health within undergraduate and postgraduate curricula and through an internship program, aimed at providing related experiences.

***Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals***

25. The Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals (FEPPEN, Spanish acronym), founded in 1970, works to *a)* promote the scientific, political, economic, and social development of the nursing profession and of nursing workers in the Region; *b)* define guidelines, goals, and targets that support the collective, cooperative work of its member organizations; and *c)* defend the right to health and social security in the countries of the Region.

26. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between FEPPEN and PAHO:

- a) A virtual celebration of International Nurses Day (2020, 2021, and 2022) was organized as a tribute to those professionals for their work against COVID-19.
- b) Support was provided for the dissemination of the PAHO policy brief *The Strategic Importance of National Investment in Nursing Professionals in the Region of the Americas*, which addresses key policies for investment in the nursing workforce and calls on countries to strengthen the profession. Support was also provided for the incorporation of this document into national nursing policies of countries in the Region.
- c) Collaboration was offered in the pilot test of the PAHO course on scientific methodology and knowledge dissemination strategies for nurses, which was hosted in 2022 at the Virtual Campus for Public Health, with the participation of 90 professionals.

27. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between FEPPEN and PAHO:

- a) Delineate collaborative strategies for workforce development between ministries of health, universities, and nursing schools, fulfilling training needs that meet care demands in health services and promoting a curriculum that is more focused on primary health care.
- b) Conduct joint programs with health authorities, unions, and other institutions, to coordinate and monitor the working conditions of nurses.
- c) Promote regulations and responsibilities that expand the role of nurses in primary care, and incorporate core inter-professional competencies into nursing curricula.
- d) Work with ministries of health to introduce changes in nursing education, emphasizing the need to expand the role of nurses in primary care.

- e) Help ensure continuous nursing education in community health and develop innovative training programs that focus on universal access to health and on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with emphasis on primary health care.

***United States Pharmacopeial Convention***

28. The United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) is a scientific non-profit organization that sets standards for the identity, strength, quality, and purity of medicines, food ingredients, and dietary supplements manufactured, distributed, and consumed worldwide. The USP standards for drugs are enforceable in the United States by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the same or similar standards are used in more than 140 countries. The mission of USP is to improve global health through public standards and related programs that help ensure the quality, safety, and benefit of medicines and foods.

29. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between USP and PAHO:

- a) Regional capabilities were strengthened to ensure the quality of medicines and other health technologies, with special focus on providing technical support for quality control of medical products and interlaboratory testing, within the framework of the Caribbean Regulatory System. This collaboration enabled consultations and the development of guidance materials concerning regulatory inspections and post-marketing surveillance of medical products. In this regard, USP also collaborated with PAHO, WHO, and the Latin American Center of Perinatology, Women and Reproductive Health on a project aimed at achieving better understanding on the quality and stability of oxytocin injection—the most effective drug in preventing postpartum hemorrhage—in selected hospitals in the Region.
- b) In the framework of the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization (PANDRH), USP and PAHO exchanged and disseminated information on relevant new resources of mutual interest to support national public health programs and activities, including those integrating the COVID-19 response. With regards to COVID-19 prevention and treatment, resources exchanged included: standards and documents concerning hand sanitizers; a white paper on protecting the supply chain of COVID-19 health products; and standards and methods for treatments such as remdesivir, monoclonal antibodies, and other biologics.
- c) USP and PAHO participated in and contributed to meetings and discussions of the PANDRH, aimed at supporting pharmaceutical regulatory harmonization in the Region of the Americas. Topics of particular interest included regulatory capacities for quality control laboratories, substandard and falsified products, and the stability of medicines of interest in priority programs such as maternal health.



30. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between USP and PAHO:

- a) Strengthen regional capabilities of regulatory authorities and laboratories of the Region through technical cooperation, such as training, workshops, and guidance on relevant areas.
- b) Strengthen quality assurance systems in country settings, such as providing technical assistance in the assessment of products and technologies, fostering good laboratory practices, supporting the implementation of risk-based approaches for post-marketing surveillance at country level, and promoting quality control.
- c) Generate evidence and disseminate best practices aimed at increasing the availability of quality-assured medicines in the Region.
- d) Provide support and guidance by means of compendial standards meant for national regulatory agencies and national official control laboratories in the Region.
- e) USP will continue to support PANDRH projects by means of contributions focused on the quality and safety of medicines and other health technologies. Particular attention will be given to regulatory capacities for quality control laboratories, to substandard and counterfeit medical products, and to the stability of medicines used in priority programs such as maternal health.

#### ***World Association for Sexual Health***

31. Founded in 1978, the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) promotes and advocates for sexual health and sexual rights for all. WAS accomplishes its objectives by advocating, networking, and facilitating the exchange of information, ideas, and experiences, while at the same time conducting scientifically based sexual research, sexual education, and clinical sexology using a transdisciplinary approach.

32. Over the past three years, the following activities were carried out under the collaborative work plan between WAS and PAHO:

- a) WAS and PAHO started to develop content for an online course entitled Brief Sexual Content Communication Training, in English and in Spanish. WAS provided technical input on sexual health.
- b) A webinar was conducted with over 300 attendees to disseminate changes related to sexual health in the International Classification of Diseases 11th Revision (ICD-11). Such changes included a new chapter on sexual health with non-pathologizing perspectives on gender identities and innovations on sexual dysfunctions and paraphilias.
- c) A webinar was conducted on the new scenario for sexual health in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- d) PAHO organized the symposium Avances en la Red de Centros Centinelas que Asisten a Mujeres en Situación de Aborto en América Latina y el Caribe with the participation of sentinel centers from Brazil, Chile, and the Dominican Republic at the 25th Congress of WAS.
33. The following activities are proposed for the next three years (2023-2025) under the collaborative work plan between WAS and PAHO:
- a) Disseminate the PAHO document A Systematic Review of Sexual Health and Subjective Well-Being in Older Age Groups in the Region.
  - b) Integrate the content of the aforementioned PAHO document into a virtual course aimed at training of primary health care providers, to be made available at the Virtual Campus for Public Health.
  - c) Develop and implement a virtual course on the fundamental elements of sexual health for primary health care providers.
  - d) Create a webinar to disseminate the PAHO document A Systematic Review on Psychological Interventions for Sexual Health in Older Age, which seeks to promote public health interventions aimed at protecting and supporting sexual health in older age.

**Annex C**

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ONGOING RELATIONS  
BETWEEN PAHO AND NON-STATE ACTORS  
IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO**

***Action on Smoking and Health***

1. During 2022, Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) conducted various activities in collaboration with PAHO, including the following:
  - a) ASH hosted several educational and informational webinars, with and for partners and advocates, related directly to all lines of collaboration in the agreed workplan with PAHO.
  - b) ASH, along with PAHO, the Government of Panama, and civil society organizations, cohosted the Tobacco Endgame in the Americas Region Webinar, which presented current tobacco control overviews and discussed what lies ahead in the implementation of endgame strategies.
  - c) ASH developed resources for tobacco control, including the U.S. Tobacco Lobbyist and Lobbying Firm Registration Tracker and an International Women’s Day video with advocates from Latin America.
  - d) ASH participated in virtual trainings on strengthening multisectoral action for tobacco control in the Region of the Americas, hosted by PAHO. The aim of these trainings was to increase the capacity for implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) Article 5, which covers comprehensive multisectoral national tobacco control strategies in the Region, especially in low- and middle-income countries.
  - e) As part of the World No Tobacco Day, ASH and partners launched a petition to parties of the WHO FCTC, requesting big tobacco companies to pay for the harmful effects of the substance, and urging governments to advance liability measures to hold the industry accountable at country level. ASH also presented at the event World No Tobacco Day 2022: Fighting Tobacco Product Waste, hosted by WHO and the United Nations Environment Programme.

***American Speech-Language-Hearing Association***

2. In June 2022, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) was invited to present at the PAHO Rehabilitation Leadership Roundtable Meeting. ASHA’s presentation included its mission and history, as well as information on the ASHA-PAHO collaboration in selected countries (in Spanish). ASHA completed its programmatic work in Ecuador, where 111 speech-language therapists received virtual training (25% of the country’s workforce) coordinated with the Ministry of Health.
-

3. ASHA also continued to promote the ASHA-PAHO collaboration as follows: two presentations at the ASHA Convention in November 2022, one on the international activities of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the other entitled Capacity Building for Global Equity: Access to Child Language Assessment Data in Ecuador. ASHA also presented at the 1er Congreso de la Red Iberoamericana de Programas de Terapia del Lenguaje y Fonoaudiología, in Costa Rica (virtual event).

***Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids***

4. In 2022, the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK), in collaboration with PAHO, supported the discussion of legislative processes for the adoption of effective policies on tobacco control by coordinating submission comments on legislation and regulations in four countries. These included: a bill banning tobacco advertisement, promotion, and sponsorship in Jamaica; a draft bill on tobacco control in Mexico; a draft bill on plain packaging and a regulatory decree on tobacco control in Costa Rica; and a draft bill to ban the commercialization, import, and advertising of electronic nicotine delivery systems and heated tobacco products in Brazil.

5. CTFK also collaborated with PAHO to strengthen the capacity of Member States by disseminating best practices through workshops, trainings, and new materials. On World No Tobacco Day (30 May), CTFK participated in the launch of the PAHO Report on Tobacco Control for the Region of the Americas 2022, and presented in the webinar A Smoke-Free Caribbean: A Win/Win for Health and the Environment, hosted by PAHO and Caribbean civil society and academia. PAHO Member States officials, researchers, and civil society advocates gathered in Washington, DC to share achievements, challenges, and future strategies to further tobacco control in a post-COVID-19 context. CTFK co-produced a video celebrating smoke-free South America, which was presented at sessions during the webinar, and sponsored the participation of civil society representatives from Brazil and Mexico to foster inter-institutional dialogues with national authorities. CTFK also co-authored five papers, scheduled for publication in the Pan American Journal of Public Health's special issue on tobacco control—Towards a Smoke-Free World? South America Became the First 100% Smoke-Free Subregion in the Americas; Overcoming Tobacco Industry Opposition to Standardized Packaging in the Americas; Progress in Adopting Bans on Tobacco Advertising, Promotion, and Sponsorship in the Americas: Lessons from Uruguay and Argentina; United States Food and Drug Administration's Authorization of Reduced Exposure Claims for IQOS: Implications for Regulation in Latin America; and Moving in the Right Direction: Tobacco Packaging and Labeling in the Americas.

6. CTFK and PAHO continued to collaborate on activities to strengthen the capacity of governments and civil society to develop and pass healthy food policies in the Region. CTFK and PAHO also met with decision makers in Brazil in August 2022—including the Ministries of Health, Finance, and Foreign Affairs—to discuss restrictions on the marketing of unhealthy products to children. Lastly, in June 2022, CTFK participated in the virtual launch of the PAHO study Comparing Taxes as a Percentage of Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Prices in Latin America and the Caribbean.

***Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute***

7. In 2022, the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) collaborated to strengthen the capacities of national laboratories in the Region of the Americas to monitor and mitigate the spread of antimicrobial resistance in bacterial pathogens. This included training, workshops, and strengthening of surveillance infrastructure, specifically CLSI's annual update webinar M100—Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. PAHO representatives participated in the activities and meetings of the panel of experts on microbiology and of the Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (AST) Subcommittee, and revised documents on performance standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Colombia's National Institute of Health participated in the evaluation of culture media for *Haemophilus influenzae* (*H. influenzae*).

8. PAHO participated in a CLSI-led meeting on the Global Impact of M100. Participants from the Region met with CLSI and AST leadership and staff to discuss the implications of decision making around inclusion and exclusion of pathogens and associated M100 breakpoints. CLSI and PAHO provided all national reference laboratories in Latin America and the Caribbean with the document Analysis and Presentation of Cumulative Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test Data, in order to strengthen national and local surveillance systems.

9. PAHO and CLSI worked together to ensure that CLSI standards specific to testing fungal pathogens were available to participants of the webinar held on 12 September by the PAHO Latin American and Caribbean Network for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (ReLAVRA, Spanish acronym).

***Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative—Latin America***

10. As part of its collaboration with PAHO, the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) carried out the following activities in 2022:

- a) Hepatitis C:
- DNDi and PAHO met with ministries of health from the Region of the Americas to reengage and discuss strategies to promote the viral hepatitis agenda.
  - DNDi and PAHO participated in an international scientific session organized in conjunction with Spain's Royal Academy of Medicine on progress and challenges towards the achievement of elimination targets in Latin America, held in March 2022 in Madrid.
  - The Hepatitis C Partnership for Control and Treatment, or Hepatitis C PACT (HepCPACT) was launched in 2022 to address the continuing disparities in access to diagnosis and treatment of the hepatitis C virus in low- and middle-income countries. For this initiative, DNDi joined forces with several partners, including Treatment Action Group (TAG), Doctors without Borders, and the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND).

DNDi and PAHO also co-chaired a session at the launch of HepCPACT in the World Hepatitis Summit (WHS) with the participation of civil society organizations from Argentina, Canada, and Uruguay on their role in responding to viral hepatitis in the Americas.

b) Chagas disease:

- DNDi participated in quarterly meetings to monitor the implementation of five EMTCT (elimination of mother-to-child transmission) Plus pilots in Colombia, along with the Ministry of Health and the PWR Office in Colombia.
- DNDi supported the information system for monitoring notifications of pregnant women with Chagas and newborns. DNDi also supported the Ministry of Health of Colombia and the PWR Office in Colombia in the design of interventions aiming to scale up the Chagas disease care roadmap.

c) Leishmaniasis:

- DNDi designed a project for evaluating local interventions for uncomplicated cutaneous leishmaniasis treatment. Study documents were submitted to the ethical committee of the Instituto Conmemorativo Gorgas de Estudios de la Salud, which served as technical coordinator of the study.
- A collaborative retrospective study, involving 11 institutions in four countries in the Region, collected information on the effectiveness and tolerability of routine cutaneous leishmaniasis treatment in children up to 10 years of age and adults above 60 years of age. The study, concluded in March 2021, was presented to all endemic countries in August 2022, during the 7th meeting of redeLEISH, the network of researchers and collaborators in Leishmaniasis. The manuscript was submitted for publication.
- DNDi contributed technical information and comments to the PAHO Guideline for the Treatment of Leishmaniasis in the Americas, which was disseminated in several DNDi communication channels.

***Framework Convention Alliance***

11. In 2022, due to internal changes in staff, the Framework Convention Alliance (FCA) had more limited presence in the Region of the Americas than previously. FCA is actively working to address this, partly by seeking to hire a new regional coordinator for the Americas to continue the implementation of the agreed three-year workplan with PAHO.

12. Despite staff changes, FCA was recently awarded funding that will help its work in the Region. The primary objective of this work will be to promote full implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) by addressing the lack of predictable, long-term funding for national tobacco control programs in low- and middle-income countries. Colleagues in Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico have shown a

preliminary interest in learning more about budget advocacy and the dimensions of the “global funding gap” for tobacco control, specifically examining new data on development aid for this area of work.

### ***Healthy Caribbean Coalition***

13. During 2022, the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) collaborated with PAHO to help strengthen CARICOM National NCD Commissions, by providing focused support to the Trinidad and Tobago NCD Alliance, and working to establish a national NCD Alliance in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

14. A tool aimed at the public sector was also developed, in collaboration with PAHO, to manage and mitigate conflicts of interest in NCD prevention and control policy and programming. This tool will be published in early 2023.

15. HCC continues to participate in the Caribbean Public Health Law Forum, a platform for continued communication, collaboration, and engagement of individuals and institutions working in health or legal affairs with the aim of advancing the use of law in addressing NCD risk factors. The platform was launched by PAHO and the Caribbean Court of Justice Academy for Law. HCC is a member of the steering committee and of the working groups on tobacco control and nutrition policy.

16. Two main activities have been conducted to advocate for a healthy food environment. First, a six-week regional digital campaign to promote healthy school food policies, #ActOnFacts: The Food in Our Schools Matters, was jointly designed and implemented. Second, there has been joint advocacy seeking approval of the regional standard for labelling of pre-packaged foods. The Final Draft CARICOM Regional Standard 5 was developed in support of the introduction of front-of-package high-in warning labels.

17. Regarding NCD risk factors and prevention, HCC has continued to host the Annual Caribbean Alcohol Reduction Day 2022, organized in partnership with PAHO, with the goal of building awareness among the public and policymakers on the harmful effects of alcohol use.

18. Several tools were developed and trainings were conducted in support of the Caribbean’s goal of being smoke free by 2022. Included were two case studies (Antigua and Barbuda, and Saint Lucia), four intersectoral policy briefs, and a jointly-hosted webinar to launch these documents on World No Tobacco Day 2022.

### ***InterAmerican Heart Foundation***

19. In alignment with the agreed work plan between the InterAmerican Heart Foundation (IAHF) and PAHO, IAHF carried out a series of activities in 2022 to strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

(WHO FCTC), and promoted policies to improve nutrition and reduce obesity in the Americas. These activities included:

- a) IAHF continued its work of implementing the FCTC in Bolivia, with the support of its Bolivian affiliate and members of the Alianza por la Salud. The goal was to advance on the approval of a regulation for FCTC-aligned tobacco control. In addition, IAHF developed two projects in Bolivia to investigate and expose the industry's efforts to target youth in the promotion of tobacco and nicotine products, with one company selling products near schools and another using social media tactics.
- b) IAHF also conducted campaigns to raise awareness on tobacco's harmful effects on health. Among the campaigns, one focused on the environmental damage of tobacco products and another, in Uruguay, focused on regressive measures that had recently been enacted. IAHF also joined international support of WHO for rejecting a COVID-19 vaccine developed by Medicago.
- c) In promoting policies to improve nutrition, IAHF co-led the development of the Latin American and Caribbean Nutrition and Health Community of Practice (COLANSA), where advocates and researchers can share information and best practices for policymaking on healthy eating. IAHF developed COLANSA in collaboration with the Instituto Brasileiro de Defesa do Consumidor (IDEC), the Instituto de Nutrición y Tecnología de los Alimentos (INTA) from Universidad de Chile, the Instituto de Efectividad Clínica y Sanitaria (IECS) from Universidad de Buenos Aires, the Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública de México (INSP), and the Coalition for Americas' Health (CLAS). COLANSA plans to expand its geographical reach and broaden its expertise, strengthening the hub on front-of-package labeling and fostering the development of new hubs.
- d) IAHF contributed to efforts in updating the Argentine Food Code (Article 155 of the Código Alimentario Argentino) to limit industrial trans fatty acids (TFAs) to no more than 2% of total fats in any product, within the best current WHO standards for TFAs.
- e) IAHF completed the mapping of organizations, indicators, and policies on nutrition and obesity prevention across eleven Latin American and Caribbean countries, with the support of PAHO.
- f) IAHF supported the dissemination of Heart Foundation of Jamaica's evidenced-based media campaign Protect Our Children's Health. The campaign highlighted the importance of an effective food policy environment and the role of octagonal food package warning labels in allowing parents and children to make healthier food choices.



***Inter-American Society of Cardiology***

20. In 2022, the Inter-American Society of Cardiology (SIAC, Spanish acronym) and PAHO were speakers on the panel Cardiovascular Prevention Guidelines for the Americas at the 29th Inter-American Congress of Cardiology, held 8-11 June in Miami, Florida. SIAC and PAHO organized a session to discuss the new WHO guidelines on hypertension, and designed the HEARTS clinical pathway to implement these guidelines, establishing measures for the diagnosis and control of hypertension and fixed-dose medication to control the condition. SIAC expressed its commitment to the HEARTS initiative, focusing on countries that had either not yet implemented it or were facing challenges in its implementation. PAHO participated as a presenter in one of the symposiums at the congress, dealing with communication in the times of COVID-19, by sharing communication strategies of HEARTS in the Americas.

21. SIAC, with the support of PAHO, conducted several awareness campaigns on cardiovascular prevention measures and organized webinars, podcasts, interviews, and workshops to promote a healthy lifestyle. The campaign during Vaccination Week highlighted that the flu vaccine prevents heart attacks. In July, the Mother's Heart campaign was held, to raise awareness for pregnant women to care for their hearts and secure a healthy pregnancy and baby. In September, World Heart Day was celebrated with the slogan "Use Your Heart," which emphasized that environmental pollution gravely affects cardiovascular health.

***Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries***

22. In 2022, the Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (ALIFAR, Spanish acronym) carried out various activities in collaboration with PAHO focused on the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines, as well as access to medicines and their regulation. The following activities were held:

- a) Mobilization of experts to advance the strategic actions established in the PAHO policy on increasing the production capacity for essential medicines and health technologies, which included the identification of relevant actors in improving access to essential products.
- b) Monitoring of health and intellectual property regulations established by the competent authorities in Latin American countries, with particular attention to rules on registration of and marketing authorization for biotechnological medicines.
- c) Contribution to the identification of current gaps and challenges, and to the development of possible mechanisms for more effective convergence and collaboration in the regulation of essential health technologies for health systems.

23. Throughout the year, ALIFAR representatives participated in the following meetings: *a)* first session of the Advisory Committee of the Regional Platform to Advance the Manufacturing of COVID-19 Vaccines and Other Health Technologies in the Americas (June 2022); *b)* 8th MERCOSUR Forum on integration of production in the pharmaceutical

sector (3 June 2022); *c*) 170th Session of the Executive Committee of PAHO, held in a hybrid session (20-24 June 2022); *d*) Special Session of the Directing Council of PAHO on Monkeypox and Vaccine Access, held virtually (5 August 2022); and *e*) 30th Pan American Sanitary Conference, 37th Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas (26-30 September 2022).

### ***Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry***

24. During 2022, the Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI) carried out various activities in collaboration with PAHO, aimed at strengthening the Region's human resources for health regarding public health issues and promoting quality management and laboratory practices. These activities included:

- a) Training program to strengthen professional competencies, with emphasis on managerial training, quality management, and public health. The following courses were held: Quality Management and Good Laboratory Practices to Strengthen Virological and Genomic Surveillance of COVID-19, conducted in September with the participation of more than 90 professionals from reference and private laboratories in 20 countries; and, Leadership of Young Clinical Laboratory Professionals, conducted between June and August with the participation of 30 professionals from 11 countries. A virtual workshop, Promoting Implementation of University Courses on Quality Management and Public Health in Universities in the Region, was also held between June and December, aimed at university professors. Additional activities were carried out in commemoration of the Latin American Week of Quality in Health (Semana Latinoamericana de la Calidad en Salud), held in April, in different countries under the leadership of the COLABIOCLI young professionals group.
- b) Survey of professional certification and recertification systems, which began in October. In November, a meeting took place between academic units that train biochemists and offer equivalent degree programs in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- c) Strengthening of external quality assessment (EQA) programs in Latin America. All COLABIOCLI member countries were invited to participate in the EQA pilot program that took place in August and September.
- d) Regarding quality management, a survey on laboratory accreditation was conducted in all countries of the Region and a preliminary report was prepared. Regarding good laboratory practices, a census of laboratories was conducted in all countries of the Region and a laboratory accreditation course was held in November.

### ***Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry***

25. In 2022, the Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry (FIFARMA, Spanish acronym) carried out various activities in collaboration with PAHO, aimed at harmonizing regulation, combating counterfeit medicines and pharmaceutical products,

promoting good manufacturing practices, and fostering pharmacovigilance, among other goals. These activities included:

- a) FIFARMA and Cuba's National Regulatory Authority (CECMED) carried out joint technical work on a project with the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization (PANDRH) entitled Assessing Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product Requirements for Drug Registration Processes in the Region of the Americas towards More Timely Access to Medicines and More Convergent Regulatory Approaches, which contributed to more timely access to medicines and promoted more convergent approaches to regulation.
- b) FIFARMA and PAHO collaborated on an event at the Permanent Forum on the Regulation of Biologics in the Americas, within the framework of PANDRH. Collaboration consisted in the participation of industry experts in a virtual workshop on reliance on the decisions of other jurisdictions, aimed at regulators in the Region.
- c) FIFARMA continued to implement a regional anti-counterfeiting campaign, based on the global campaign of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations, in line with WHO guidelines. The campaign seeks to help detect, prevent, and respond to unregulated, substandard, and counterfeit medical products and to develop and implement strategies to combat them.

### ***Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension***

26. In 2022, the Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension (SLANH) carried out various activities in collaboration with PAHO aimed at creating registries of patients in renal replacement therapy and strengthening existing registries; updating content and developing online courses for health workers; and updating and disseminating recommendations for COVID-19 management of patients in dialysis and of transplant patients. These activities included:

- a) Reissuing the joint PAHO/SLANH course on renal health for primary health care physicians, and preparing a course on renal health for other health professionals. The courses are expected to begin in 2023 and will be included in the Virtual Campus for Public Health.
- b) Developing a strategy to implement a renal health program in each country of the Region, launched within the framework of the Congress of the Ecuadorian Society of Nephrology, which took place in October 2022.
- c) Updating data from the Latin American dialysis and transplant registry, available on the SLANH website, which includes almost all countries in the Region.
- d) Disseminating the Strategy and Plan of Action on Donation and Equitable Access to Organ, Tissue, and Cell Transplants 2019-2030 (Document CD57/11) in all countries of the Region.

- e) Collaborating with the Instituto Nacional Central Único Coordinador de Ablación e Implante (INCUCAI) of Argentina in the design of the Latin American Registry of Dialysis Patients with COVID-19 Infection.
- f) Participating in scientific events, such as: the 22nd Meeting of the Ibero-American Network-Council on Donation and Transplantation, which took place in September 2022 in Buenos Aires, Argentina; and the online session prior to the 2022 World Congress of Nephrology, in February 2022, on the importance of the Latin American dialysis and kidney transplant registry and its role in decision making in the Region. SLANH also led a seminar on chronic kidney disease at the science summit that was held at the 77th United Nations General Assembly.

### ***Mundo Sano Foundation***

27. In 2022, in compliance with its joint work plan with PAHO, the Mundo Sano Foundation (FMS, Spanish acronym) carried out the following activities:

- a) Cooperation between FMS and the Ministry of Health of Paraguay in recertifying the absence of vector-borne transmission in the eastern region of Paraguay, with PAHO working synergistically in the implementation of the framework for the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B and Chagas (EMTCT Plus).
- b) Implementation of the EMTCT Plus framework in a rural area of the South American Chaco, in Pampa del Indio (Argentina), and in the urban area of Almirante Brown (Buenos Aires, Argentina).
- c) FMS participation in the 18th Annual Meeting and Second Virtual Meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission of the Andean Subregional Initiative for the Prevention and Care of Chagas Disease, organized by PAHO from 25-27 May 2022. As a panelist, FMS presented a summary of its activities to the countries of the Andean subregion and to invited experts and institutions, contributing to the discussion and making suggestions for the report on the meeting.
- d) Implementation of a research project entitled Field Validation of *Trypanosoma cruzi*-LAMP: A Molecular Point-of-Care Test for the Control of Congenital Chagas Disease in Argentina, the results of which are being compiled.
- e) Participation in the first technical meeting of the Ibero-American initiative, No Baby with Chagas: The Road to New Generations Free of Chagas, for which FMS is the technical unit. National authorities from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, and Spain participated, as well as representatives of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), PAHO, the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi), the Chagas Coalition, and WHO.
- f) Co-organization of the virtual postgraduate course on Chagas disease, along with the Faculties of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Biochemistry of the University of Buenos Aires, starting in October 2022.

### ***National Alliance for Hispanic Health***

28. In 2022 the National Alliance for Hispanic Health (NAHH) continued to support the PAHO-NAHH work plan focused on NCD prevention and tobacco control. The activities developed included:

- a) NAHH continued to implement the Good Health Community Champions of the Americas Initiative to join forces with PAHO in the promotion of multisectoral collaboration and civil society participation in NCD prevention in the Americas. In 2022, four partner agencies in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, and Guatemala completed the development and distribution of customized educational materials adapted from the Buena Salud Americas’s Cervical Cancer/HPV toolkit, which had used information from the PAHO campaign It’s Time to End Cervical Cancer.
- b) NAHH, through its Nuestras Voces Network initiative, collaborated with PAHO in cancer and tobacco control. NAHH consulted with PAHO on available surveys for youth and adults, in order to assess tobacco-related behaviors and identify effective ways to communicate with the Spanish-speaking population who consumes tobacco products. Additionally, Nuestras Voces implemented bilingual social media activities, in collaboration with its local partners, to promote World No Tobacco Day 2022. Nuestras Voces also helped raise awareness on the harmful impact of the tobacco industry on the environment.

### ***Sabin Vaccine Institute***

29. In 2022 the Sabin Vaccine Institute (Sabin) continued to support the PAHO-Sabin work plan focused on education, training, evidence-generation, and advocacy initiatives concerning immunization. The activities developed included:

- a) Sabin’s Vaccine Acceptance and Demand (VAD) initiative, which is: generating knowledge about solutions that address the social and behavioral drivers of vaccine acceptance; disseminating this knowledge to improve vaccine acceptance in low- and middle-income countries; and working to ensure that health information gatekeepers share accurate vaccine and immunization information. In 2022, Sabin engaged with PAHO to collaborate in immunization outreach activities.
- b) In March of 2022, Sabin hosted the Vaccination Acceptance Research Network’s first global conference (VARN2022), aiming to help shape global vaccine acceptance with localized knowledge. There was significant participation of countries from the Region of the Americas.
- c) VAD’s programs with Brazil’s Agência Bori and the International Women’s Media Foundation—to support journalists in enhancing their coverage of vaccines and immunization—benefited at least forty journalists and facilitated the publication of 42 feature stories.
- d) In the summer of 2022, Sabin and Agência Bori launched InfoVacina Trainee, with 15 early-career journalists and journalism students. The two organizations also

kicked off a training/mentorship program for journalists in the Caribbean with International Women’s Media Foundation and the Media Institute of the Caribbean. PAHO technical cooperation was also instrumental in conceptualizing Sabin’s 2022 program for journalists in the Caribbean.

***World Resources Institute Ross Center for Sustainable Cities***

30. In 2022 the World Resources Institute Ross Center for Sustainable Cities (Ross Center) continued to support the PAHO-Ross Center work plan focused on road-safety promotion, NCD prevention, and other public health priorities in the Region.

31. In June 2022, PAHO convened a National Stakeholders Meeting on Road Safety, in Brazil, in preparation for the High-Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly on Road Safety, in the same year. The meeting was held in the PWR Office in Brasilia, and gathered around sixty participants from public and non-governmental organizations to discuss challenges and opportunities for road safety in the country. The Ross Center participated in a panel aimed at: discussing safe infrastructure and land use planning; discussing the National Plan for Reducing Road Fatalities and Injuries (PNATRANS); and establishing commitments for Brazil to achieve the goals of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030. The Ross Center also participated in a second panel to talk about speed management and its role in achieving the goals of the Decade of Action. The Ross Center also participated in the National Stakeholder’s meeting, held by PAHO in November.

32. In February 2022, the Ross Center held a special event to close the first season of the Vision Zero Challenge with an award ceremony, during the Transforming Transportation conference. The Vision Zero Challenge is an initiative to train city leaders on tangible measures needed to implement a Vision Zero approach to road safety. The first season of the initiative focused on the Latin American subregion, and PAHO was an essential partner, providing its global leaders to integrate the jury and to participate as experts in several of the workshops. During the 2022 Awards Ceremony, PAHO and WHO were acknowledged for their valuable contributions to the initiative.

**Annex D****SCHEDULE OF SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEWS OF NON-STATE ACTORS  
IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH PAHO**

(as of 1 January 2023)

<b>Name (English)</b>	<b>Name (Spanish)</b>	<b>Date Admitted</b>	<b>Last Reviewed</b>	<b>Scheduled to be Reviewed</b>
Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)	Action on Smoking and Health	2018	2021	2024
American Heart Association (AHA)	Asociación Estadounidense del Corazón	2020		2023
American Public Health Association (APHA)	Asociación Estadounidense de Salud Pública	2013	2020	2023
American Society for Microbiology (ASM)	Sociedad Estadounidense de Microbiología	2001	2020	2023
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)	Asociación Americana del Habla, Lenguaje y Audición	2014	2021	2024
Basic Health International (BHI)	Basic Health International	2020		2023
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK)	Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids	2021		2024
Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI)	Instituto de Normas Clínicas y de Laboratorio	2022		2025
Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative—Latin America (DNDi)	Iniciativa Medicamentos para Enfermedades Olvidadas—América Latina	2018	2021	2024
Framework Convention Alliance (FCA)	Alianza para el Convenio Marco	2015	2021	2024
Global Oncology (GO)	Global Oncology	2020		2023
Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC)	Coalición Caribe Saludable	2012	2022	2025
Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering	Asociación Interamericana de Ingeniería Sanitaria y Ambiental (AIDIS)	1995	2020	2023
InterAmerican Heart Foundation (IAHF)	Fundación Interamericana del Corazón (FIC)	2002	2021	2024
Inter-American Society of Cardiology	Sociedad Interamericana de Cardiología (SIAC)	2012	2022	2025

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<b>Name (English)</b>	<b>Name (Spanish)</b>	<b>Date Admitted</b>	<b>Last Reviewed</b>	<b>Scheduled to be Reviewed</b>
Latin American Association of Pharmaceutical Industries	Asociación Latinoamericana de Industrias Farmacéuticas (AFLIFAR)	2000	2022	2025
Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry	Confederación Latinoamericana de Bioquímica Clínica (COLABIOCLI)	1988	2022	2025
Latin American Federation of the Pharmaceutical Industry	Federación Latinoamericana de la Industria Farmacéutica (FIFARMA)	1979	2021	2024
Latin American Society of Nephrology and Hypertension	Sociedad Latinoamericana de Nefrología e Hipertensión (SLANH)	2015	2021	2024
March of Dimes	March of Dimes	2001	2020	2023
Mundo Sano Foundation	Fundación Mundo Sano (FMS)	2016	2022	2025
National Alliance for Hispanic Health (NAHH)	Alianza Nacional para la Salud Hispana	1996	2021	2024
Pan-American Federation of Associations of Medical Schools (PAFAMS)	Federación Panamericana de Asociaciones de Facultades y Escuelas de Medicina (FEPAFEM)	1965	2020	2023
Pan American Federation of Nursing Professionals	Federación Panamericana de Profesionales de Enfermería (FEPPEN)	1988	2020	2023
Sabin Vaccine Institute (Sabin)	Instituto de Vacunas Sabin (Instituto Sabin)	2011	2021	2024
United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)	Convención de la Farmacopea de Estados Unidos	1997	2020	2023
World Association for Sexual Health (WAS)	Asociación Mundial para la Salud Sexual	2001	2020	2023
World Resources Institute Ross Center for Sustainable Cities (Ross Center)	Centro Ross para Ciudades Sustentables del Instituto de Recursos Mundiales (Centro Ross)	2010	2022	2025

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