



DECLARATION OF HUECHURABA, CHILE ON THE HEALTHY MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES, AND COMMUNITIES MOVEMENT OF THE AMERICAS

The local governments of the Americas Region, under the leadership of their mayors, play a crucial role in addressing the social determinants of health comprehensively. This is achieved through the implementation of healthy, intersectoral and participatory public policies that promote health, well-being and equity in populations.

The VI Meeting of Mayors for Healthy Municipalities of the Americas Region, co-organized by the Municipality of Huechuraba, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the Ministry of Health of Chile, and the Chilean Association of Municipalities, took place with the purpose of establishing a meeting space that fostered regional dialogue. This facilitated the exchange of local governance experiences to promote health and well-being, thereby strengthening the Regional Movement of Healthy Municipalities, Cities and Communities (HMCC).

This meeting is aligned with the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan on Health Promotion in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals 2019-2030 and the Policy to Recover Progress towards Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals with Equity through Measures Addressing the Social Determinants of Health and Intersectoral Action. Additionally, it builds upon international commitments made in the Santiago Declaration 2016, the Shanghai Consensus on Healthy Cities 2016, the Valdivia Act 2017, the Acapulco Declaration 2018, the Santiago de Cuba Commitment 2018, the Paipa Declaration 2019, agreements from the IV Virtual Meeting for HMCC 2021, and the Panama Declaration 2022.

During the VI Meeting, the Regional Criteria for Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities, previously adopted in the V Meeting, were officially launched. Progress and achievements of the Regional Movement's Action Plan in 2023 were shared, along with a collection of meaningful experiences from municipalities, cities, and communities promoting local governance for health and well-being, which were recognized in the 2023 Call for Submissions. Discussions also revolved around the sustainability of healthy municipalities at regional, national, and local levels, valuing the opportunities provided by the Regional Movement as a network and exchange platform for mayors in the region. This aims to strengthen local management in health, well-being, and equity. Additionally, the VI Meeting



highlighted the remarkable growth of the HMCC Movement in the past year, while outlining a roadmap for the year 2024.

In accordance with the Movement's Statute, a thematic commission is proposed to strengthen its sustainability. This milestone represents significant progress in consolidating the structure of the Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities Movement, providing robust institutional support for more effective goal achievement and a political action platform for the realization of its initiatives.

In this context, mayors from municipal governments who participated in the *VI Meeting of Mayors for Healthy Municipalities of the Americas Region* from the countries of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, and the Dominican Republic on November 2 and 3, 2023, in the City of Huechuraba, Chile, commit to:

1. Strengthen local governance for health and well-being, prioritizing equity, social participation, and intersectoral collaboration as central elements of the political agenda.
2. Consolidate the Regional Movement of Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities by involving an increasing number of local governments committed to building healthy municipalities.
3. Enhance networks of healthy municipalities at national and subnational levels, and facilitate their integration with the Regional Movement.
4. Promote and consolidate participation in the thematic liaison tables of Ministries of Health and Networks of Healthy Municipalities in the Americas Region.
5. Drive the implementation of the Regional Criteria for Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities of the Americas, harmonizing with national, subnational, and local strategic planning frameworks.
6. Foster and strengthen capacity building, and exchange of experiences among healthy municipalities.
7. Progress towards the sustainability of Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities.
8. Incorporate the intercultural approach into the Movement of Healthy Municipalities, Cities, and Communities to actively promote the inclusion of indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities. This aims to preserve their cultural heritage and enrich this regional platform.