



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



# 152nd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Washington, D.C., USA, 17-21 June 2013*

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*Provisional Agenda Item 7.8*

CE152/INF/8 (Eng.)

7 June 2013

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

## **RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER ACTIONS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST TO PAHO**

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

A. Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly .....	2
B Subregional Organizations .....	13

**A. SIXTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

1. The 66th World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization (WHO) was held on 20-28 May 2013 in Geneva (Switzerland) and attended by representatives and delegates of 188 Member States. Dr. Shigeru Omi (Japan) acted as President of the Assembly. Five countries served as vice-presidents: Angola, Haiti, Nepal, Oman, and Ukraine, in representation of their respective regions. Dr. Florence Duperval Guillaume, Minister of Health of Haiti, replaced the President during the fifth plenary session of the General Assembly.

2. At the opening of the Assembly, Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO, called attention to the outbreak of two new diseases: infections in human beings caused by a new coronavirus and by the influenza H7N9 virus. She emphasized that both diseases are a reminder to the entire world that the threat of emerging and epidemic-prone diseases is omnipresent. She also underlined the importance of maintaining strict surveillance and of immediate notification to WHO, as well as strict fulfillment of the obligations of the Member States settled in the International Health Regulations (2005).

3. She reported on the progress of the debate about the place that health should occupy on the post-2015 development agenda and urged Member States to fight strongly to ensure that health is placed high on the new development agenda. She presented information on the scope of the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and acknowledged the efforts made by countries to fulfill the MDGs, but urged them to redouble their efforts to overcome certain obstacles that hinder the delivery of services.

4. She emphasized that despite the achievements, the task is not easy, in particular the fight against noncommunicable diseases, especially since the risk factors are amplified by very economically powerful products and forces. She emphasized that WHO would never have good relations with the tobacco industry, but recognized that it would be possible to work with other industries that could play a role in reducing the risks of noncommunicable diseases, while always ensuring that WHO avoids conflicts of interest.

5. She made special mention of the commitment made by all to achieve universal health coverage and said that both WHO and the Member States were on the right path.

6. The Credentials Committee comprised of 12 Member States, was appointed, with the delegates of Canada and Nicaragua representing the Region of the Americas.

7. The Chairman of the Executive Board, Dr. Joy St. John, Director General of Health of Barbados, submitted her report on the subjects reviewed during the 131st and

132nd sessions of the Executive Board, highlighting the resolutions adopted by the Council.

8. The agenda of the Assembly included 23 general items, most of them related to technical and health matters; 13 progress reports on technical subjects; and 17 administrative, budgetary, and institutional items. As on previous occasions, these matters were dealt with in committees A and B and in the plenary sessions. The Assembly adopted 24 resolutions and made 13 decisions.

9. The full versions of these resolutions and decisions, along with other documents related to the World Health Assembly, can be consulted on the WHO website: [http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e\\_wha66.html](http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_wha66.html).

10. Table 1 contains a list of the resolutions adopted by the World Health Assembly that are of interest to the Region and the related PAHO resolutions, as well as the implications that the WHA resolutions have for the Region and the progress that has been made on these subjects<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Other Matters: Executive Board**

11. The 133rd meeting of the Executive Board was held on 29-30 May. The Presidency of the Executive Board rested with Australia. Argentina, Brazil, and Suriname were selected to be Executive Board members, complementing Cuba, Mexico, and Panama as the six members of the Region.

12. The agenda of the 131st Session of the Executive Board included 13 items, among them WHO reform; comprehensive and coordinated efforts for the management of autism spectrum disorders; psoriasis: a report by the Secretariat to provide a basis for discussion; a report by the Secretariat suggesting an approach for the evaluation of the global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation, and intellectual property; a report on improving the health of patients with viral hepatitis, based on the framework for global action. The Board made 10 decisions and adopted 3 resolutions at this session.

13. Finally, the Board took note of the reports submitted and approved the date and location of the 67th World Health Assembly, among other matters. It was agreed that the 67th World Health Assembly would be held at the Palais des Nations, in Geneva, starting on 19 May 2014 and ending no later than 24 May. The Board also decided that its 134th meeting will begin on Monday 20 January 2014, at WHO headquarters in Geneva, ending no later than 25 January; that the Programme, Budget, and Administration Committee of the Executive Board will hold its 19th meeting 16-17 January 2014, at WHO

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<sup>1</sup> A more exhaustive analysis of the implications of the WHO Resolutions for the Region will be presented during the 52nd Directing Council of PAHO to be held from 30 September to 4 October 2013.

headquarters, and that its 20th meeting will be held 15-16 May 2014, at WHO headquarters in Geneva.

14. The full versions of these reports, as well as other related documents, can be consulted on the WHO website: [http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e\\_eb133.html](http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb133.html).

**Action by the Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is invited to take note of these resolutions, consider their implications for the Region of the Americas, and offer the recommendations they deem relevant.

**Table 1: Technical and Health Policy Matters**

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
<p><a href="#">WHA66.1</a> Twelfth General Programme of Work, 2014–2019</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/6</a> Draft twelfth general programme of work</p> <p><a href="#">A66/4</a> WHO reform High-level implementation plan and report</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152/10</a> Proposed PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019</p>	<p>The WHO Twelfth General Programme of Work, 2014-2019 calls for an alignment financial resources with WHO priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) advancing toward universal health coverage;</li> <li>b) addressing the problems that remain to be solved and those which may arise in the future with regard to the health-related Millennium Development Goals;</li> <li>c) addressing the challenges of non-communicable diseases;</li> <li>d) implementing the provisions of the International Health Regulations;</li> <li>e) increasing access to essential medical products, and;</li> <li>f) addressing the social, economic, and environmental determinants of health.</li> </ul> <p>The program has been taken as the framework for preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2014-2019.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.2</a> Programme budget 2014–2015</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/7</a> PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET 2014–2015</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152.SS.R1</a> Allocation of Funds by WHO to the Region of the Americas</p> <p><a href="#">CE152/11</a> Proposed PAHO Program and Budget 2014-2015</p>	<p>The Bureau will prepare a detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the Americas in the document to be presented at the 52nd Directing Council.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.3</a> Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/33</a> Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152/18</a> Amendments to the Financial Regulations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WHA has approved the amendments to the WHO Financial Regulations, effective 1 January 2014.</li> <li>• The main changes concern Regulation V. Provision of Regular Budget Funds, since this is now extended to cover both assessed and voluntary sources to finance the entire budget. Furthermore, Regulation VII. Working Capital Fund and Internal Borrowing is revised to address the way in which</li> </ul>

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
			<p>the budget may be financed through the Working Capital Fund and internal borrowing, prior to the receipt of the assessed contributions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although PAHO's Regulations do not require the Director to raise Voluntary Contributions, estimates of Voluntary Contributions are included as part of the Program and Budget and are reported to the Governing Bodies. The change to the Working Capital Fund is in line with PAHO's current Financial Regulations.</li> <li>PAHO has its own Financial Regulations; therefore, the changes to the WHO Financial Regulations do not have a major impact on PAHO.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.4</a> Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/11</a> Draft action plan for the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment 2014-2019 Towards universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019</p>	<p><a href="#">CD49.R11</a> Plan of Action on the Prevention of Avoidable Blindness and Visual Impairment</p> <p><a href="#">CD49/19</a> Plan of Action on the Prevention of Avoidable Blindness and Visual Impairment</p> <p><a href="#">CE152/INF/7 (F)</a> <a href="#">Towards the Elimination of Onchocercosis (River Blindness) in the Americas</a></p> <p><a href="#">CD48.R12</a> Towards the Elimination of Onchocerciasis (River Blindness) in the Americas</p>	<p>Considering that PAHO has approved an action plan for the prevention of blindness and avoidable visual deficiencies, it would be advisable to review it in the light of the global action plan 2014-2019.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.6</a> Financial report and audited financial Statements for the period 1</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/29</a> Financial Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2012</p>	<p><a href="#">Official Document No. 344</a> Financial Report of the Director and Report of the External Auditor for 2012</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PAHO also received an unqualified audit opinion on its 2012 Financial Statements. PAHO's External Auditors provided a Letter of Comfort to the WHO External Auditors with regard to the WHO funds administered</li> </ul>

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
January 2012–31 December 2012			<p>by PAHO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAHO will present its 2012 audited Financial Statements and the Report of the External Auditor to PAHO’s 152nd Executive Committee in June 2013.</li> </ul> <p>The following important aspects of the WHO financial report may be of interest to the Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall financial situation improved, but concerns remain.</li> <li>• Accounting surplus of \$214m includes funds to be made available for 2013 (<i>PAHO has a similar net surplus, but because it is the interim, funds remain available for the second year of the biennium</i>); however some areas of the budget are underfunded.</li> <li>• PBAC noted unfunded long term liabilities, specifically staff health insurance of \$823m, which WHO anticipates funding by 2042 (<i>PAHO will also show a net liability for ASHI – this will be highlighted and explained in the presentation of the Financial Report of the Director for 2012 to the ExCom in June. However, a 30 year funding scenario poses challenges for the Organization</i>).</li> <li>• PBAC noted imbalance between earmarked and unearmarked (8%) VC (the vast majority of PAHO VC funds are earmarked).</li> <li>• PBAC emphasized importance of showing meaningful budgetary comparisons against expenditure in Statement 5 (<i>As the budget is biennial and the financials are annual, there is a theoretical constraint – PAHO has chosen to show the full budget against the annual expenditure which illustrates the balance of funds to be implemented in the biennium</i>).</li> <li>• PBAC emphasized the need for a healthy cash surplus and recommended that estimated staff</li> </ul>

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
			<p>costs be covered for a biennium (<i>PAHO has similar cash flow challenges due to the concentration of contributions in a few large member states – currently, PAHO has depleted its working capital fund and is using internal resources to fund the Regular Budget pending the receipt of assessments</i>).</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.7</a>  Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Commission on Life-Saving Commodities for Women and Children</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/14</a>  Follow-up actions to recommendations of the high-level commissions convened to advance women’s and children’s health</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152/INF/7(A)</a>  Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Neonatal Health within the continuum of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Care (2008-2015): Mid-term Evaluation</p> <p><a href="#">CD48.R4, Rev. 1</a>  Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Neonatal Health within the Continuum of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Care</p>	<p>Through the regional programs, following up on the commitment made in Resolution WHA66.__ to provide the population, especially the poorest population, with access to the 13 life-saving commodities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commodities for maternal health:</b> <i>Oxytocin</i> – puerperal hemorrhage; <i>Misoprostol</i> – post-partum haemorrhage; <i>Magnesium sulfate</i> – eclampsia and severe preeclampsia.</li> <li>• <b>Commodities for neonatal health:</b> <i>Injectable antibiotics</i> – neonatal septicemia; <i>Antenatal corticosteroids (ANCs)</i> – respiratory distress syndrome in premature neonates; <i>Chlorhexidine</i> – care of the umbilical cord; <i>Resuscitation devices</i> – asphyxiation in newborns.</li> <li>• <b>Commodities for child health:</b> <i>Amoxicillin</i> – pneumonia, <i>Oral rehydration salts</i> – diarrhea; <i>Zinc</i> – diarrhea.</li> <li>• <b>Commodities for reproductive health:</b> <i>Female condoms</i>; <i>Contraceptive implants</i> – family planning and contraceptive methods; <i>Contraceptive emergency methods</i> – family planning and contraceptive methods.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.8</a>  Comprehensive mental health action plan 2013-2020</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/10 Rev.1</a>  Draft comprehensive mental health action plan 2013-2020</p>	<p><a href="#">CD49.R17</a>  Strategy and Plan of Action on Mental Health</p> <p><a href="#">CD49/11</a>  Strategy and Plan of</p>	<p>Considering that PAHO approved a <a href="#">Strategy and Plan of Action on Mental Health</a>, it would be advisable to review it in the light of the global action plan 2013-2020.</p>



Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
		Action on Mental Health	
<a href="#">WHA66.9</a> Disability	<a href="#">A66/12</a> <a href="#">Disability</a>	<a href="#">CD50.R8</a> Health and Human Rights  <a href="#">CD50/12</a> Health and Human Rights	The recommendations of the <i>World Report on Disability</i> should be studied to determine the steps to be taken in the Region, based on the Report and Resolution WHA66.9
<a href="#">WHA66.10</a> Follow-up to the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases	<a href="#">A66/8</a> Draft comprehensive global monitoring framework and targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. Formal Meeting of Member States to conclude the work on the comprehensive global monitoring framework, including indicators, and a set of voluntary global targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases.  <a href="#">A66/9</a> <a href="#">A66/9 Corr.1</a> Draft action plan for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases 2013-2020  Documents A66/8 and A66/9. Resolution 66/2 of the United Nations General Assembly.	<a href="#">CD51/INF/4</a> Report on the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases	By Resolution WHA66.10 the Member States decided to: adopt the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020; and adopt the comprehensive global monitoring framework for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases, including all its goals and indicators. Member States were urged to accelerate implementation by Parties of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and to give high priority to the implementation of the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (WHA57.17), the global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol (WHA63.13), and the recommendations on the marketing of foods and non-alcoholic beverages to children (WHA63.14), as being integral to making progress in this matter. Member States were also urged to strengthen engagement with other sectors and with civil society. The Director was requested to prepare draft terms of reference for a global coordination mechanism of an intersectoral nature, and to conduct regional consultations.  The Bureau will prepare a more detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the Americas in the document to be presented at the 52nd Directing Council.

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
	Resolution 66/288 of the United Nations General Assembly.		
<p><a href="#">WHA66.11</a> Health in the post-2015 UN development agenda</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/47</a> Health in the post-2015 UN development agenda</p> <p><a href="#">A66/13</a> Monitoring the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals</p> <p><a href="#">A66/15</a> Social determinants of health</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152/INF/6</a> Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Report on the Panel Preparations</p> <p>PAHO website that includes a set of tools to support Member States: <a href="http://new.paho.org/mdgpost2015/">http://new.paho.org/mdgpost2015/</a></p>	<p>Resolution WHA66.11 urges the Member States to ensure that health is central to the post-2015 UN development agenda and to actively engage in discussions in order to accomplish this; to honor their commitments toward the MDGs and to support the countries at risk of not achieving them; it asks the Director-General to include the discussion of health in the post-2015 UN development agenda as an agenda item in the meetings of the WHO regional committees.</p> <p>The subject is already in the agenda both of the Executive Committee and the Regional Committee of the Americas.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.12</a> Neglected tropical diseases</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/20</a> Neglected tropical diseases Prevention, control, elimination and eradication</p>	<p><a href="#">CD49.R19</a> Elimination of Neglected Diseases and Other Poverty-Related Infections</p>	<p>The Bureau will prepare a detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the Americas in the document to be presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Directing Council.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.13</a> Status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/30</a> Status of collection of assessed contributions, including Member States in arrears in the payment of their contributions to an extent that would justify invoking Article 7 of the Constitution</p>	<p><a href="#">CE152/16, Rev. 1</a> Report on the Collection of Assessed Contributions</p>	<p>In the Region of the Americas at the time of the opening of the 66<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly, the voting rights of Grenada were suspended. Antigua and Barbuda would be in the same situation if their quotas have not been paid by the 67<sup>th</sup> Assembly.</p>
<p><a href="#">WHA66.18</a> Follow-up of the report of the Working Group on the Election of the</p>	<p><a href="#">A66/41</a> Follow-up of the report of the Working Group on the Election of the</p>	<p><a href="#">CE150/INF/1</a> Process for the Election of the Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and the</p>	<p>Among other aspects, Resolution WHA66.18 establishes a candidates' forum, similar to that of the Region of the Americas, as well as a standard, limited-length form for the submission</p>

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
Director-General of the World Health Organization	Director-General of the World Health Organization	Nomination of the Regional Director of the World Health Organization for the Americas	candidates' curriculum vitae. This form could be considered by the Member States of the Region as an innovative tool for the procedure of choosing the Regional Director.
<a href="#">WHA66.20</a> Agreement between the World Health Organization and the South Centre	<a href="#">A66/46</a> Agreements with intergovernmental organizations Agreement between the World Health Organization and the South Centre	<a href="#">CE152/15</a> Cooperation among Countries for Health Development in the Americas	<p>The South Centre is an intergovernmental organization of developing countries established by an Intergovernmental Treaty which came into force on 31 July 1995. The organization is made up of 51 countries from the five regions of the World Health Organization.</p> <p>The objectives of the South Center relevant to cooperation with WHO are: to promote South solidarity and South-South action and cooperation in order to improve mutual understanding and cooperation between the South and the North; and to foster convergent views and approaches, in particular with regard to development.</p> <p>The Bureau will prepare a detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the Americas in the document to be presented at the 52nd Directing Council.</p>
<a href="#">WHA66.23</a> Transforming health workforce education in support of universal health coverage	<a href="#">A66/24</a> Universal Health Coverage	<a href="#">CE152/12, Rev. 1</a> Social Protection in Health	<p>Among other aspects, Resolution WHA66.23 urges the Member States to further strengthen policies, strategies and plans through intersectoral policy dialogue among the relevant ministries (education, health, and finance) in order to ensure that health workforce education and training contribute to achieving universal health coverage; and to provide adequate resources and political support for the implementation of policies and strategies as appropriate for the strengthening and transformation of health workforce education.</p> <p>The Bureau will prepare a detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the</p>

Resolution	Items (and Reference Documents)	PAHO Resolutions and Documents	Implications for the Region Progress in Region
			Americas in the document to be presented at the 52nd Directing Council.
<a href="#">WHA66.24</a> eHealth standardization and interoperability	<a href="#">A66/26</a> eHealth and health Internet domain names	<a href="#">CD51.R5</a> Strategy and Plan of Action on eHealth	The Bureau will prepare a detailed analysis of the implications of this resolution for the Member States of the Americas in the document to be presented at the 52nd Directing Council.

## **B. SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

1. This document presents the principal agreements and resolutions of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) adopted by different intergovernmental regional and subregional entities linked with public health and that are related to PAHO's work as the specialized health agency of the Inter-American System.

### **a) Central America**

- Central American Integration System (SICA): Council of Central American Ministers of Health (COMISCA)
- Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic (RESSCAD)

### **b) Caribbean**

- Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)
- Caucus of Caribbean Ministers of Health

### **c) South America**

- Andean Community of Nations: Andean Health Agency /Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS/CONHU)
- Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR): Working Subgroup No. 11/ Health (SGT 11)
- Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO): new ACTO Strategic Agenda 2012-2020: Regional Health Management
- Union of South American Nations (UNASUR): South American Health Council

## **Resolutions and Agreements on Health Matters Adopted by Subregional Integration Entities<sup>2</sup> and Related to PAHO Activities**

### **a) *Central American Integration System (SICA)***

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<sup>2</sup> The meetings considered are those held within the framework of subregional bodies linked with health between June 2011 and April 2013.

***Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMISCA)***<sup>3</sup>

2. The Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (COMISCA) of the Central American Integration System (SICA) is the forum that brings together the Ministers and Ministries of Health. The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) participates in the regular meetings of the Council by invitation of the Executive Secretariat of COMISCA as the lead agency in health matters in the Region and because of the technical assistance it provides in the thematic Technical Commissions (Technical Commission on Pharmaceuticals, Human Resources, Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases, and Cancer; Technical Commission on Surveillance in Health and Information Systems; and the Regional Coordinating Mechanism on HIV/AIDS). Furthermore, PAHO/WHO has a permanent representative on the Executive Committee for Implementation of the Health Plan for Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEIP) and on the Advisory Committee of the Technical Commission on Surveillance in Health and Information Systems.

3. COMISCA holds regular sessions twice a year in the countries that hold the presidency *pro tempore*. The last regular meeting of COMISCA (XXXVII Regular Meeting of COMISCA, 3-4 December 2012) was held in the city of Managua (Nicaragua), the country that held the presidency *pro tempore* during the second half of 2012.

4. It should be noted that a special session of COMISCA was held on 22 February 2013 in the city of San José (Costa Rica), the country that holds the presidency *pro tempore* during the first half of 2013. At that time, the procedure for rotation of the COMISCA Executive Secretariat was presented and approved, as were the adjustments made by the Executive Committee to the 2013-2015 Health Plan and to the 2013 Annual Operating Plan for implementation of the Health Plan. Since Costa Rica holds the SICA presidency *pro tempore*, the XXXVIII Regular Meeting of COMISCA will take place in San José in the month of June.

5. PAHO/WHO also participates in the Central American System within the framework of the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project, which is governed by the mandates arising from the Summit of Heads of State and of Government of the Tuxtla Dialogue and Consensus-building Mechanism. The project has an Executive Board (with permanent headquarters in El Salvador) and an Inter-institutional Technical Group (GTI), in which PAHO participates together with other partners to coordinate actions with the different initiatives in the Mesoamerican Project. PAHO/WHO does not

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<sup>3</sup> Link to information on COMISCA: <http://www.sica.int/comisca/>

receive or implement resources to finance the Master Plans, but does contribute a technical perspective to guide interventions in health in order to ensure that they are coherent with regional and global methods and goals.

<b>Central American Integration System XXXVII Regular Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic City of Managua (Nicaragua), 3-4 December 2012</b>	
<b>Items approved by COMISCA</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Sustainability strategy for the comprehensive response to HIV  Regional laboratory on HIV infection	Linked with HIV/AIDS technical programs.  Linked with the Progress Report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation (CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).  Linked with the technical program on health and laboratory services and the technical program on HIV.  Linked with the resolution on Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals, (CD50.R9 [2010]).
Joint negotiations on medicines	Linked with the Regional Revolving Fund for Strategic Public Health Supplies.  Linked with the technical program on Drugs and Health Technologies.  Regional Platform on Access and Innovation for Health Technologies (2012).  Linked with Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems (CSP28/11 and CSP28.R9 [2012]).
Report on the work of the Commissions of the Health Plan for Central America and the Dominican Republic 2010-2015  Mid-term evaluation of the Health Plan for Central America and the Dominican Republic	Linked with the country support team that coordinates the subregional cooperation program.
Risk Management in Health—CTEGERS	Linked with the program on emergency preparedness and disaster relief.  Linked with the resolution on Coordination of International Humanitarian Assistance in Health in Case of Disasters (CSP28/13 and

<b>Central American Integration System XXXVII Regular Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic City of Managua (Nicaragua), 3-4 December 2012</b>	
<b>Items approved by COMISCA</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
	CSP28.R19 [2012]).
Regional network of National Reference Laboratories (REDLAB).  Cooperation to strengthen national capabilities—IHR.	Linked with the resolution: Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9 [2010]).  Linked with the resolution: Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems (CSP28/11 and CSP28.R9 [2012]).
Technical Commission on Human Resources (CTRH)	Linked with the technical program for the development of human resources for health.  Regional Observatory of Human Resources in Health.  Linked with the Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015 (CSP28/INF/3(G) [2012]).
Nutritional quality assurance of foods and harmonization of food fortification regulations (subjects presented by INCAP)	Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Nutrition in Health and Development 2006-2015: Mid-term Review (CSP28/INF/3(C) [2012]).
Proposal to guarantee the availability of critical drugs and maternal and child supplies (Central America)	Linked with the resolution: Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals, (CD50.R9 [2010]).  Linked with the technical program on maternal-child health and with the Latin American Center for Perinatology, Women, and Reproductive Health (CLAP).
Prominence of Nicaraguan young people in the transformation of the health model	Linked with the technical programs on health promotion and adolescent health.  Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).  Linked with the Strategy and Plan of Action on Adolescent and Youth Health (Resolution CD49.R14 [2009])



<b>Central American Integration System            XXXVII Regular Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic            City of Managua (Nicaragua), 3-4 December 2012</b>	
<b>Items approved by COMISCA</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Donation and transplanted of human organs and tissues	Linked with the Policy Framework for Human Organ  Donation and Transplantation (CD49.R18 [2009])
Chronic kidney disease	Linked with the Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (2012-2025 (CSP28/9 and CSP28.R13 [2012])  Linked with the Pan American Forum for Action on Noncommunicable Diseases (2012).  Linked with the Report on the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (Information Document CD51/INF/4 [2011]).  Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).

***Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic (RESSCAD)<sup>4</sup>***

6. The Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic participate along with the social security and water and sanitation institutions in the Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic (RESSCAD). PAHO serves as the Technical Secretariat for this forum. Meetings are held once a year, the last one in the Dominican Republic on 5-6 July 2012. In 2013, the XIX RESSCAD has been scheduled for the month of July in Guatemala.

**b) *Caribbean Community (CARICOM)***

<sup>4</sup> Link to information on RESSCAD: <http://new.paho.org/resscad/>

***Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)***

7. Within the framework of CARICOM, the Ministers of Health meet in regular sessions in the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD). PAHO participates in this forum as the technical advisory agency on health. The last regular meeting was held in July 2012 in Providence (Guyana).

<b>CARICOM            Twenty-third Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)            Providence (Guyana), 10-11 July 2012            “Childhood and Youth”</b>	
<b>Main items addressed by COHSOD</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Integrated agenda for children and youth	<p>Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).</p> <p>Linked with the Strategy and the Plan of Action for Integrated Child Health (CSP28/10 and CSP28.R20 [2012]).</p>
Regional Framework for the Action on the subject of childhood	<p>Linked with the Strategy and Plan of Action for Integrated Child Health (CSP28/10 and CSP28.R20 [2012]).</p>
Violence against boys, girls, and young people	<p>Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).</p> <p>Linked with the Strategy and the Plan of Action for Integrated Child Health (CSP28/10 and CSP28.R20 [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the Plan of Action on Adolescent and Youth Health (Resolution CD49.R14 [2009]).</p> <p>Linked with the program on gender and health.</p>

<b>CARICOM</b> <b>Twenty-third Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)</b> <b>Providence (Guyana), 10-11 July 2012</b> <b>“Childhood and Youth”</b>	
<b>Main items addressed by COHSOD</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Health hazards in boys, girls, and adolescents	<p>Linked with the technical programs on health promotion and adolescent health.</p> <p>Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).</p> <p>Linked with the Plan of Action on Adolescent and Youth Health (Resolution CD49.R14 [2009]).</p>
Toward the prohibition of corporal punishment	Linked with the Resolution on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010])
Creation of institutional capacity to address violence with a gender approach	<p>Linked with the program on gender and health.</p> <p>Linked with the Plan of Action for Implementing the Gender Equality Policy (CSP28/INF/3(B) [2012])</p>

*Caucus of Ministers of Health of the Caribbean*

8. PAHO offers its facilities for meetings of the Caucus of Ministers of Health of the Caribbean and, along with CARICOM, acts as secretariat. The most recent meeting of the Caucus was held 15-16 September 2012 in Washington D.C., before the 28<sup>th</sup> Pan American Sanitary Conference.

<b>CARICOM</b> <b>XXI Meeting of the Caucus of Ministers of Health of the Caribbean</b> <b>Washington D.C., PAHO Headquarters, 15-16 September 2012</b>	
<b>Items addressed</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
CARPHA	Linked with PAHO’s subregional work program with the Caribbean, especially CAREC and

<b>CARICOM</b> <b>XXI Meeting of the Caucus of Ministers of Health of the Caribbean</b> <b>Washington D.C., PAHO Headquarters, 15-16 September 2012</b>	
<b>Items addressed</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
	CFNI.
Noncommunicable diseases: Report on the implementation of the Declaration of Port of Spain and of the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly (2011)	<p>Linked with the Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (CSP28/9 and CSP28.R13 [2012]); and the Report on the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (Information Document CD51/INF/4 [2011]).</p> <p>Linked with the regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).</p> <p>Pan American Forum for Action on NCDs (2012).</p>
Development of Human Resources for Health (Registration of nurses)	<p>Linked with Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015 (CSP28/INF/3(G) [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the technical program for the development of human resources for health.</p> <p>Regional Observatory of Human Resources for Health.</p>
Elimination of the vertical transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis	<p>Linked with the progress report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation (CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the Strategy and Plan of Action for Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV and Congenital Syphilis (Resolution CD50.R12 [2010]).</p> <p>Linked with the program for Health Surveillance and Disease Prevention and Control.</p>
PANCAP/CARPHA partnership and update on progress of Phase II of the Global Fund Round 9 Grant	Linked with the progress report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation

<b>CARICOM</b> <b>XXI Meeting of the Caucus of Ministers of Health of the Caribbean</b> <b>Washington D.C., PAHO Headquarters, 15-16 September 2012</b>	
<b>Items addressed</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
	(CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).
Updating of IHR implementation, including the handling of radioactive material and toxic chemicals	Linked with Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (CSP28/17 and Resolution CSP28.R15 [2012]).  Information document on Implementation of the International Health Regulations (CD51/INF/5(D) [2011]).
Implementation of the regional pharmaceutical policy	Linked with Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals, (CD50.R9 [2010]).
Review of the PAHO subregional cooperation framework	Linked with the Caribbean subregional Cooperation Program.
University of the West Indies: graduate-level programs in public health	Linked with Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health, 2007-2015 (CSP28/INF/3(G) [2012]).  Linked with the technical program for the development of human resources for health.  Regional Observatory of Human Resources for Health.

**c) South America**

***Andean Community of Nations (CAN): Andean Health Agency/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS/CONHU)***

9. Within the framework of the Andean Community of Nations, the Andean Agency of Health/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS/CONHU) acts as technical secretariat of the Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Andean Area (REMSAA).<sup>5</sup> PAHO participates in these meetings as the technical advisory agency on health. The most recent REMSAA was held in Bogotá (Colombia), 21-23 November 2012. The XXXIV REMSAA will be held in Bolivia in 2013. The date has not yet been confirmed.

<sup>5</sup> Link to information on REMSAA: <http://www.orasconhu.org/remsa/resoluciones-8>

<b>Andean Community of Nations Andean Agency of Health/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS-CONHU) XXXIII Regular Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Andean Area (REMSAA) Bogotá (Colombia), 21-23 November 2012</b>	
<b>Resolutions adopted</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
REMSAA XXXIII/474: Andean policy on the planning and management of human resources in health	<p>Linked with the technical program for the development of human resources for health.</p> <p>Regional Observatory of Human Resources for Health.</p> <p>Linked with Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015 (CSP28/INF/3(G) [2012]).</p>
REMSAA XXXIII/475: Andean week of social response against dengue	<p>Linked with the progress report on the Current Dengue Situation (CSP28/INF/3(E) [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the regional dengue program (PAHO/GT-Dengue International).</p> <p>Linked with the technical program on dengue and Resolution CD44.R9 [2003].</p>
REMSAA XXXIII/476: Andean plan for health disaster risk management, 2013-2017	<p>Linked with the program on emergency preparedness and disaster relief.</p> <p>Linked with the Coordination of International Humanitarian Assistance in Health in Case of Disasters (CSP28/13 and CSP28.R19 [2012]).</p>
REMSAA XXXIII/477: Generic drug strategy of the countries of the Andean subregion	<p>Linked with the Strategic Fund and with the technical program on medicines and health technologies.</p> <p>Regional Platform on Access and Innovation for Health Technologies (2012).</p> <p>Linked with Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems (CSP28/11 and CSP28.R9 [2012]).</p>

<b>Andean Community of Nations Andean Agency of Health/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS-CONHU) XXXIII Regular Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Andean Area (REMSAA) Bogotá (Colombia), 21-23 November 2012</b>	
<b>Resolutions adopted</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
REMSAA XXXIII/478: Andean Policy: sexual and reproductive health for adolescents with emphasis on pregnancy prevention	Linked with the Adolescent and Youth Regional Strategy and Plan of Action, 2010-2018.  Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).
REMSAA XXXIII/479: Plan of action on the Andean Disability Policy.	Linked with the technical program on disability and rehabilitation.
REMSAA XXXIII/480: Andean subregional plan for a joint effort on HIV and blood transfusion safety, 2013-2017	Linked with the HIV/AIDS technical program.  Linked with the progress report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation (CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).  Improving Blood Availability and Transfusion Safety in the Americas, 2006-2010 (CD48.R7 [2008]).  Progress Report on the Regional Initiative for Blood Safety, 2006-2010 (CD46/16 [2005]).  Strengthening Blood Banks in the Region of the Americas (CD41/13 [1999]).
REMSAA XXXIII/481: Health situation of Andean migrants in Spain	Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).
REMSAA XXXIII/483: Strategic Plan 2013-2017 of the Andean Health Agency-Hipólito Unanue Agreement and Operating Plan 2013.	Linked with the technical program that deals with subregional health cooperation.

### ***Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)***

10. In this area, it should be noted that meetings of sub-working group no. 11 on health (SGT 11) adopt resolutions that are then submitted for the consideration of the Common Market Group (GMC), discuss proposed resolutions that are sent for internal

consultation, and analyze resolutions that constitute recommendations in each Commission of SGT 11 (the Commission on Health Care, the Commission on Health Products, and the Commission on Health Surveillance, in addition to the resolutions on national coordination). In general, these are issues related to regulation and the harmonization of standards. PAHO participates in its capacity as the technical advisory agency on health. The latest of these meetings, the XXXIX Regular Meeting of SGT 11 (Health) was held in Salvador, Bahia (Brazil), 10-14 September 2012. As always, resolutions submitted for the consideration of the GMC were adopted.

11. Furthermore, regular sessions of the meetings of MERCOSUR ministers of health are held at least twice a year (one under each *pro tempore* presidency, which rotates every six months). The XXXIII Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health (RMS) was held 13-15 November 2012, in the city of Porto Alegre (Brazil).

<b>MERCOSUR XXXIII Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health Porto Alegre (Brazil), 13-15 November 2012</b>	
<b>Agreements approved</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Agreement 02/12: Regional strategy for control of tuberculosis in MERCOSUR	<p>Linked with the Regional Strategy for Tuberculosis Control, 2005-2015 (CD46.R12 [2005]).</p> <p>Linked with PAHO report: Tuberculosis in the Region of the Americas Regional Report 2011. Epidemiology, Control, and Financing.</p>
Agreement 03/12: Plan for strengthening integrated management strategies for the prevention and control of dengue in MERCOSUR	<p>Linked with the progress report on the Current Dengue Situation (CSP28/INF/3(E) [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the regional dengue program (PAHO/GT-Dengue International).</p> <p>Linked with the technical program on dengue and Resolution CD44.R9 [2003].</p>
Agreement 05/12: Strengthening health actions on HIV infection for persons deprived of liberty in MERCOSUR countries	<p>Linked with the progress report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation (CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).</p> <p>Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).</p>



<b>MERCOSUR  XXXIII Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health  Porto Alegre (Brazil), 13-15 November 2012</b>	
<b>Agreements approved</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
<p>Agreement 06/12: Inclusion of the millennium goal for chronic noncommunicable diseases and WHO goals for chronic noncommunicable diseases for 2013; and support for global, regional and national plans of action.</p>	<p>Linked with the Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (CSP28/9 and CSP28.R13 [2012])</p> <p>Linked with the Report on the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (Information Document CD51/INF/4 [2011]).</p> <p>Linked with the regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).</p> <p>Linked with the Pan American Forum for Action on noncommunicable diseases (2012).</p>
<p>Agreement 06/12: Inclusion of the millennium goal for chronic noncommunicable diseases and WHO goals for chronic noncommunicable diseases for 2013; and support for global, regional and national plans of action.</p>	<p>Linked with the Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (CSP28/9 and CSP28.R13 [2012])</p> <p>Linked with the Report on the United Nations High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (Information Document CD51/INF/4 [2011]).</p> <p>Linked with the regional Strategy and Plan of Action for an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (Resolution CD47.R9 [2006]).</p> <p>Linked with the Pan American Forum for Action on noncommunicable diseases (2012).</p>
<p>Agreement 07/12: Implementation of the HIV prevention, care, and support project in MERCOSUR border areas</p>	<p>Linked with the progress report on the PAHO Regional Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS/STI, 2006-2015: Mid-term Evaluation (CSP28/INF/3(D) [2012]).</p>

<b>MERCOSUR                  XXXIII Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health                  Porto Alegre (Brazil), 13-15 November 2012</b>	
<b>Agreements approved</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Agreement 08/12: Development of a technical cooperation project for the prevention of obesity in MERCOSUR member countries	Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Nutrition in Health and Development 2006-2015: Mid-term Review (CSP28/INF/3(C) [2012].  Linked with the Pan American Alliance on Nutrition and Development for the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
Declaration of interest in the design of a nutritional assessment instrument for pregnant adolescents	Linked with the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on Nutrition in Health and Development 2006-2015: Mid-term Review (CSP28/INF/3(C) [2012].  Linked with the Adolescent and Youth Regional Strategy and Plan of Action, 2010-2018.  Linked with the resolutions on Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8 [2010]) and on Health, Human Security, and Well-being (CD50.R16 [2010]).

***Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)***<sup>6</sup>

12. Within the framework of the new Strategic Agenda 2012-2020, PAHO/WHO is engaged in technical cooperation activities with the Health Coordination Office of the ACTO Permanent Secretariat. This technical cooperation was formalized with the signing of a Framework Agreement between the two organizations during the 51st Directing Council of PAHO (2011).

***Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)***<sup>7</sup>

13. The South American Health Council (CSS) of UNASUR has a Coordinating Committee, a Technical Secretariat, and several technical groups. The Technical Secretariat, which is comprised of the President *pro tempore* and representatives of two countries (the preceding and following *pro tempore* presidents) convenes and supports the meetings of the Council. PAHO participates in the Coordinating Committee as an observer. Peru currently holds the *pro tempore* presidency and Suriname will be the next

<sup>6</sup> Link to information on ACTO: <http://www.otca.info/portal/>

<sup>7</sup> Link to information on the South American Health Council: [www.unasursg.org](http://www.unasursg.org)

country. The most recent meeting of the CSS was held in Lima (Peru) on 4-5 September 2012.

<b>UNASUR VIII Meeting of the South American Health Council Lima (Peru), 4-5 September 2012</b>	
<b>Items addressed by the CSS</b>	<b>Relation to PAHO activities</b>
Plan for the risk and disaster management network	Linked with the program on emergency preparedness and disaster relief.  Linked with the Coordination of International Humanitarian Assistance in Health in Case of Disasters (CSP28/13 and CSP28.R19 [2012]).
ISAGS Annual Operating Plan 2013	Linked with the subregional technical cooperation program for South America.
Medicines: price database and study of production capacity in South America	Linked with the initiative for Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals, (Resolution CD50.R9 [2010]).  Linked with the progress report on the Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation, and Intellectual Property. (Information document CD51/INF/5(B) [2011]).
Support proposal on the relationship with third parties in the field of the financing	Linked with external relations and resource mobilization area.
Proposed Declaration: South American Day of voluntary, free, and altruistic donation of breast milk.	Linked with the technical program on maternal and child nutrition.  Linked with the Pan American Alliance on Nutrition and Development for the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
Comprehensive care for disabilities	Linked with the technical program on disability and rehabilitation.

#### **Action by the Executive Committee**

14. The Executive Committee is invited to take note of this report.