

Calendar of virtual and in presence meetings to Select R&D Demonstration Projects

- Identification of three regional priorities and methodology for expert selection
 - Date: **August 21st (time:10:00 am)**
 - Location: via Elluminate
 - Organizer: PAHO
 - Participants: Member States representatives and PWR focal points.
 - Objectives: PAHO/HSS/MT will convey this meeting that will mark the official commencement of Regional consultative process. Member States are expected to designate official representatives for this process and inform HSS/MT before August 19th. During this meeting Member States would be asked to agree on three priorities areas to guide project submission and selection.

- Civil society briefing and call for project submission:
 - Date: **August 23rd (time: 10:00 am)**
 - Location: via Elluminate
 - Organizer: PAHO
 - Participants: open meeting, ample communication efforts through PWR and other channels to ensure active participation of civil society.
 - Objectives: While priority setting and specific project selection is reserved for Member States, we understand that civil society can contribute to this process. In particular, centers of excellence, researchers, public health NGOs and pharmaceutical industry should contribute ideas and concrete project proposals for the consideration of Member States.

- Project submission:
 - Date: **September 9-25th**
 - Location: PRAIS (Regional Platform on Access and Innovation for Health Technologies)
 - Organizer: PAHO/HSS/MT
 - Participants: Member States and civil society
 - Objectives: Based on selected priority areas, Member States and civil society will submit proposals for candidate demonstration projects. The submissions should conform to a standard format that is being prepared by WHO/HIS/PHI in consultation with Regional offices.

- Development of report on submitted projects :
 - Date: **September 30-October 4th**
 - Location: PAHO/HQ
 - Participants: PAHO technical officers and external experts
 - Objective: In order to facilitate Member States selection of demonstration projects, PAHO with support of external experts will put together a report on the submitted projects based on their compliance to regional priorities, to the standard format for submission and to ensure that they contain all required documentation and information including the declaration of conflict of interest. This report together with all the projects received will be submitted to Member States for their consideration in preparation to the Regional Member States meeting on October.

- Regional Member State meeting
 - Date: **October 22-23rd**
 - Location: PAHO/HQ Washington DC
 - Participants: Member States focal points and PAHO secretariat
 - Objective: PAHO, in its secretariat role, will convene a meeting of Member States representatives that will select four candidate projects for the demonstration. These projects will be forwarded to WHO as the official submission of the Americas. MEMBER STATES will be requested to choose among all submitted projects and if necessary add to the original proposals in the quest for quality proposals and consensus.

- Submission of the projects to WHO
 - Date: **October 30th**

We encourage Member States to hold ample and inclusive national consultation processes that will facilitate the identification of priority areas and projects that can be part of the regional discussion. Moreover, we would like to encourage country offices to designate focal points for this process that ensure communication between Member States and the Regional level. Dr Analía Porrás (HSS/MT, porrasan@paho.org) has been designated as the focal point for this process.