



**Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Department
Mental Health and Substance Use Unit**

“Challenges of Public Health in Addressing the World Drug Problem”

Since 26 June marks the "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking", the Unit of Mental Health and Substance Use (MH) of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), will organize a virtual session focused on approach public health in the field of psychoactive substance use.

OBJECTIVE: To inform and discuss the progress in the global and regional context on the approach of the World Drug Problem.

DATE: Friday, 1 July 2016

TIME: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Washington DC time)

PLACE: Room 1017, PAHO HQ, 523 23 St., NW, Washington DC, 20037

VIRTUAL LINKS:

English: <https://paho.webex.com/paho/onstage/g.php?MTID=e2157badaa6e642a773c6a7b0cdb98c75>

Spanish: <https://paho.webex.com/paho/onstage/g.php?MTID=ed4ae29c60787fe363b9423a4c91f5c41>

AGENDA

- 9:30 am **Welcome**
Introduction: The public health dimension of the world drug problem in the Region of the Americas
Devora Kestel, Unit Chief, Mental Health and Substance Use (NMH)
Luis Alfonzo, Advisor on Substance Use (NMH)
Jose Luis Vasquez, Specialist on Drug Demand Reduction CICAD OEA
- 9:45 am **The UNGASS on the world drug problem: Results and commitments of Member States in Health**
Rafael Franzini, Representative of UNODC in Brazil
- 10:00 am **Challenges for health systems in addressing public health in the world drug problem**
Dr. Eric Ulloa, Viceminister of Health - Panama
Dra. Cristina Lustemberg, Sub-Secretary of Health - Uruguay
Dr. Manuel Mondragón y Kalb, National Commission Against Addictions – México
- 11:00 am **The role of civil society organizations in the transition to a comprehensive, balanced and inclusive approach to drug policies**
Maria Margarita Sanchez, President of RIOD
- 11:15 am-
12:00 m **Questions and answers**
Closing remarks