C. SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

19. The following are the major resolutions and agreements related to public health that have been adopted by different regional and subregional entities within the Region's integration systems and are of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization:

A. Ibero-America

• *Ibero-American Summits* – Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health

B. Central America

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

C. Caribbean

• Caribbean Community (CARICOM) - Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD)

D. South America

- Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) South American Health Council
- Andean Community of Nations (CAN) 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
- 20. The meetings held to discuss matters in regard to regional public health were attended by the ministers of health of the Region's Member States and Ibero-America in the case of the Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health and by other official delegates. In addition to representatives of the Member States, the meetings were attended in some cases by representatives of governments accredited as Permanent Observers; the Associated States; representatives of the various agencies and entities of the Inter-American System, including the Pan American Health Organization, as well as cooperation agencies and other entities.
- 21. The resolutions and agreements of interest to the Governing Bodies of the Pan American Health Organization and are related to its work as the specialized health agency of the Inter-American System have been selected (tables attached).

22. It should be noted that to formalize its work with the subregional integration entities, the Pan American Health Organization Program Budget 2006-2007 introduced a section on subregional programs (Official Document 317, Proposed Program Budget of the Pan American Health Organization for the Financial Period 2006-2007, approved by the Directing Council in CD46.R8 [2005]).

Action by the Directing Council

23. The Directing Council is invited to take note of this report.

Annex

ANNEX

Health-related Resolutions and Agreements Relevant to PAHO Activities that Have Been Adopted by Subregional Integration Entities³

(A) IBERO AMERICA

Ibero-American Summits

The 13th Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health was held in Paraguay, which is the Chair *pro tempore* of the Conference for 2011. Sectoral meetings are held every year prior to the presidential summit. In the case of the health sector, the meeting in question is the Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health. Each year, this Conference issues a declaration and sends a series of paragraphs to the Heads of State and Government to consider including in their final Presidential Declaration. The Summit of Heads of State and Government will be held in Paraguay on 28-29 October 2011. Hyperlink for the final Declaration of the Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health: http://www.mre.gov.py/cumbre-iberoamericana/descargas-&cumbre/DECLARACIO &n%20XIII &%20CONFERENCIA%20 &IBERO%20SALUD%20%&20Español.pdf (in Spanish only).

13th Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health "Toward a State that Guarantees the Right to Health" Luque, Paraguay, June 2011	
AGREEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
Right to health, universal care, equity in access, and quality services.	Health Agenda for the Americas, Strategic Plan, as well as PAHO/WHO technical cooperation programs with Member States.
To undertake joint activities that allow for and guarantee access to equitable health services, to medicines, to equipment, and to appropriate technologies	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010).
To urge the States to ensure sustainable financing for their health systems	Integrated Health Services Delivery Networks Based on Primary Health Care (CD49.R22, 2009).

³ The most recent meetings held within the framework of the health-related subregional entities are reflected.

13th Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health "Toward a State that Guarantees the Right to Health" Luque, Paraguay, June 2011	
AGREEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
To make a social determinants approach part of health policy	Newborn, and Child Health for the Attainment of the Development Goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (CD47.R19, 2006). Health Promotion: Achievements and Aspirations contained in the Ottawa and Bangkok Charters (CD47.R20, 2006).
To strengthen the role of the health authority to assume a leadership role in the intersectoral approach to health	National Institutions Associated with PAHO in Technical Cooperation (CD50.R13, 2010).
To involve, commit, and urge authorities in other sectors to address health needs	Linked with the Health Agenda for the Americas.
To strengthen the governance role of the State	Health and International Relations: Linkages with National Health Development (CD48.R16, 2008). National Institutions Associated with PAHO in Technical Cooperation (CD50.R13, 2010).
To strengthen human resources education To share experiences in human resources training and management among the Ibero-American countries	Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (CD50.R7, 2010).
To energize the existing health networks	National Institutions Associated with PAHO in Technical Cooperation (CD50.R13, 2010).
To strengthen health information systems	Regional Plan of Action for Strengthening Vital and Health Statistics (CD48.R6, 2008).

13th Ibero-American Conference of Ministers of Health "Toward a State that Guarantees the Right to Health" Luque, Paraguay, June 2011	
AGREEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
To reaffirm that the strengthening of integrated health systems is essential for the development of our States	Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (CD50.R7, 2010). Linked with the regional commitment to, and Declaration on, new approaches to PHC (Declaration of Montevideo, 2005); linked with the International Conference on Primary Health Care (Argentina, 2007).
To submit the following agreements to the Twenty- first Summit of Heads of State and Government: 1. Our States have the obligation to guarantee exercise of the right to health by ensuring universal care, equity in access, quality services, and sufficient and sustainable funding of our countries' health systems within the framework of a social protection system. 2. Our States must incorporate in their public health policies an approach to health based on the social determinants of health, strengthening the role of their health authorities so that they have a leading role in an intersectoral approach to health and in efforts to encourage social participation in health, while fostering a gender and intercultural perspective. 3. We hereby express our interest in developing instruments, as well as identifying and sharing experiences and good practices, in such areas as the creation of universal health systems, human resources development and management, information systems, and the use of new technologies.	All of these issues are closely related to the Health Agenda for the Americas and to the Organization's technical programs in the relevant areas (health services, health information, human resources for health, health and social determinants, medicines and biological products, gender equality and interculturalism, etc.).

(B) CENTRAL AMERICA

• Central American Integration System (SICA)

The Council of Central American Ministers of Health (COMISCA) of the Central American Integration System (SICA) meets in regular session twice yearly in whatever country is the Chair *pro tempore*. The last meeting was held in Guatemala, which was Chair *pro tempore* for the first half of 2011. El Salvador is Chair *pro tempore* for the second half of 2011. The Ministers and Ministries of Health participate in this forum. PAHO/WHO participates in the regular sessions of the Council at the invitation of the Executive Secretariat of COMISCA, as it is the Region's leading organization on health issues and a provider of technical assistance to the thematic Technical Commissions (Human Resources, Health Surveillance and Information Systems, Regional Coordination Mechanism for HIV/AIDS, Chronic Diseases and Cancer, and Medicines). PAHO/WHO also has a permanent representative on the Executive Committee for the Implementation of the Health Plan of Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEIP) and on the Advisory Committee of the Commission on Health Surveillance and Information Systems. Hyperlink for information on COMISCA:

http://www.sica.int/busqueda/Noticias.aspx?IDItem=60613&IDCat=3&IdEnt=143&Idm=1IdmStyle=1

Central American Integration System 34th Regular Session of the Council of Central American Health Ministers Antigua, Guatemala, 23-24 June 2011	
ITEMS APPROVED BY COMISCA	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
Access to medicines	Linked with the PAHO Strategic Fund and with the technical program on Medicines and Health Technologies
Chronic diseases and cancer	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (<u>CD47.R9</u> , 2006).
	Population-based and Individual Approaches to the Prevention and Management of Diabetes and Obesity (<u>CD48.R9</u> , 2008).
	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Cervical Cancer Prevention and Control (CD48.R10, 2008).
Nutrition and food security (SAN) Preparation of SAN-ARSAN Regional Agenda	Linked with the Pan American Alliance for Nutrition and Development.

Central American Integration System 34th Regular Session of the Council of Central American Health Ministers Antigua, Guatemala, 23-24 June 2011

ITEMS APPROVED BY COMISCA	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
FOCARD-PHC-Dominican Republic and Central	Linked with the technical program on Sustainable
American Forum for Drinking Water and Sanitation	Development and Environmental Health.
Regional Coordinating Mechanism, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (COMISCA	Linked with the technical program on HIV.
technical advisory entity on HIV)	Strategy and Plan of Action for the Elimination of
	Mother-to-child Transmission of HIV and Congenital Syphilis (CD50.R12, 2010).
Human resources development	Linked with the technical program on Human
	Resources for Health.
Health surveillance	Regional Plan of Action for Strengthening Vital and Health Statistics (CD48.R6, 2008).
Feasibility of regional reference laboratory for HIV,	Linked with the technical program on
and fundraising strategy	health/laboratory services and with the technical program on HIV.
	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9,
	2010).
Mesoamerican Health System Initiative	Linked with the PAHO subregional program of work with Central America and with the Health
	Plan for Central America and the Dominican
	Republic 2010-2015.

• Special Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic RESSCAD

The Special Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic (RESSCAD) is a forum held by the Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic, with the participation of social security and drinking water/sanitation institutions, to discuss issues involving the health sector. Meetings are annual, and the most recent was held in San José, Costa Rica on 13-15 October 2010. PAHO is this forum's Technical Secretariat. The next RESSCAD meeting will be held in Panama in 2011. http://new.paho.org/resscad/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=118&Itemi d=240

http://new.paho.org/resscad/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=118&Itemi d=240 (in Spanish only).

RESSCAD 26th Special Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic San José, Costa Rica, 13-15 October 2010	
AGREEMENTS APPROVED AT RESSCAD	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 1 Water and sanitation institutions, FOCARD. Creation of national policies on drinking water and sanitation. Comparative review of legislation. Preparation of a proposal for indicators to monitor progress in the water and sanitation sector.	Linked with the technical program on Sustainable Development and Environmental Health.
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 2 Joint negotiations and procurement of medicines. Decision to urge the countries of the subregion to proceed with drug purchases already negotiated, using the mechanism selected by each country.	Linkage with the PAHO Strategic Fund is a mechanism to promote access to high-quality essential public health supplies in the Americas. This issue is also linked with PAHO's Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement.
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 3 Water, health, and environment. Request that PAHO/WHO support water-sector institutions in implementing the Water Safety Plans strategy; fundraising to expand the coverage and the quality of water services Raise the public policy issue of Water Safety Plans and risk management Adopt the vulnerability index as a tool for evaluating drinking water systems	Linked with technical program on Sustainable Development and Environmental Health. Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8, 2010).

RESSCAD 26th Special Meeting of the Health Sector of Central America and the Dominican Republic San José, Costa Rica, 13-15 October 2010		
AGREEMENTS APPROVED AT RESSCAD	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES	
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 4 Human Resources. Recommend approval of the Work Plan 2010-2011 developed by the COMISCA Technical Commission on Human Resources Development,	Regional Goals for Human Resources for Health 2007-2015 (<u>CSP27.R7</u> , 2007).	
and ask the countries to facilitate its immediate implementation Urge the countries to strengthen their national capacities to implement policies on human resources for health.	Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (<u>CD50.R7</u> , 2010)	
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 5 Health and Migration. Request the Executive Secretary of COMISCA to form an intersectoral, interagency working group in the framework of the Health Plan of Central America and Dominican Republic	Linked with the technical program on Human Resources for Health.	
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 6 Information systems and the generation of evidence for health policies.	Regional Plan of Action for Strengthening Vital and Health Statistics (CD48.R6, 2008).	
CRC XXVI RESSCAD 7 Proposal for modification of the RESSCAD bylaws.	Linked with the activities that PAHO is responsible for as the Technical Secretariat of RESSCAD.	

(C). CARIBBEAN

• Caribbean Community-CARICOM

The CARICOM Ministers of Health meet in regular session twice a year in the framework of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD), most recently in April 2011 in Guyana. PAHO participates as a technical advisory agency on health and offers its facilities for meetings of the CARICOM Caucus of Ministers of Health and for meetings of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA).

CAR	ICOM
	an and Social Development (COHSOD)
	ıyana, April 2011
	velopment through public health"
5 1 7	L S L
MAIN ISSUES ADDRESSED BY COHSOD	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
Chronic noncommunicable diseases	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (<u>CD47.R9</u> , 2006).
	Public health response to chronic diseases. (CSP26.R15, 2002).
Establishment of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) – signing of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA).	Development of the Caribbean subregional strategy for technical cooperation in health, and cooperation on, and integration of, activities with collaborating and specialized Centers: CFNI and CAREC.
Mental health	Strategy and Plan of Action on Mental Health, (CD49.R17, 2009).
	Health and Human Rights (CD50.R8, 2010).
Vertical (mother-to-child) transmission of HIV Global task force for the elimination of new HIV infections among children by 2015.	Strategy and Plan of Action for the Elimination of Mother-to-child Transmission of HIV and Congenital Syphilis (CD50.R12, 2010)
Regional model policy on HIV stigmatization and discrimination (developed by PANCAP).	Linked with technical program on HIV.
Pharmaceutical policy.	Linked with Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization.
	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010).
Model curriculum for the education of nurses.	Linked with technical program on Health Systems based on Primary Health Care, and with nursing education.
School nutrition policy (developed by Barbados).	Linked with the healthy schools initiative.

(D) SOUTH AMERICA

Union of South American Nations - UNASUR

The South American Health Council of UNASUR has a Coordinating Committee, a Technical Secretariat, and technical groups. The Technical Secretariat, which is comprised of the current Chair *pro tempore* and representatives of two other countries (the preceding and next Chairs), convenes and supports the meetings of the Council. PAHO participates in the Coordinating Committee as an observer. Hyperlink for information on the South American Health Council: http://www.pptunasur.com/contenidos.php?menu=3&submenu1=7&idiom=1

SOUTH AMERICA Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) Fourth Regular Session of the South American Health Council Montevideo, Uruguay, 14 April 2011	
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED Charter of the Pro Instituto Suramericano de	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an
Gobierno de UNASUR (PRO ISAGS), adopted by South American Health Council Resolution 02 of 2011.	Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (CD47.R9, 2006).
Chronic noncommunicable diseases.	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (CD47.R9, 2006).
Intergovernmental Group on Counterfeit Drugs.	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010).
Annual operating plans of working groups and networks – PRO ISAGS/UNASUR/Health networks: • Network of National Institutes of Health	
 Network of National Institutes of Health (RINS) Network of Schools of Public Health (RESP) 	Health and International Relations: Linkages with National Health Development (<u>CD48.R16</u> , 2008).
Network of Technical Schools of Health (RETS)	Linkage with the technical program on Human Resources for Health.
Network of Offices for International Relations in Health (ORIS) Network of Offices for International Relations in Health (ORIS)	
Network of National Cancer Institutes (RINC)	

SOUTH AMERICA	
Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)	
Fourth Regular Session of the South American Health Council Montevideo, Uruguay, 14 April 2011	
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED	
Reduction of neonatal mortality.	Linked with technical program on family and community health.
	Plan of Action to Accelerate the Reduction of Maternal Mortality and Severe Morbidity (CD51/12, 2011).
Healthy lifestyles.	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (CD47.R9, 2006).
	Health, Human Security and Well-being (CD50.R16, 2010).
Tobacco control.	Strengthening the Capacity of Member States to Implement the Provisions and Guidelines of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (CD50.R6, 2010).
Andean observatory on drug prices and dengue strategy (presented by ORAS/CONHU representative with a view to its possible interest for all the countries).	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010).
ACTO Strategic Plan (presented by ACTO representative).	Linked with technical program for subregional technical cooperation.

Andean Community of Nations (CAN)

In the framework of the Andean Community of Nations, the ministers of health of the Andean subregion meet in regular session once a year. The Andean Health Agency/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS/CONHU) functions as the Technical Secretariat of the Meeting of Health Ministers of the Andean Area (REMSAA). The group's 32nd meeting was held in Santiago, Chile in April 2011. PAHO participates in these meetings as a technical advisory entity on health. Hyperlink for information on REMSAA: http://www.orasconhu.org/remsaa/resoluciones-6

SOUTH AMERICA Andean Community of Nations Andean Health Agency/Hipólito Unanue Agreement (ORAS/CONHU) 32nd Meeting of Ministers of Health of the Andean Area (REMSAA) Santiago, Chile, 1 April 2011	
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
REMSAA XXXII/464 – Access to strategic drugs,	Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for
and pharmaceutical surveillance.	Medicines and Biologicals (<u>CD50.R9</u> , 2010).
REMSAA XXXII/465 – Public health events	Technical progress report: (A) — Implementation of
prioritized on the Andean Epidemiological	the International Health Regulations (2005)
Surveillance Network: Events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern.	(<u>CD50/INF/6</u> , 2010).
REMSAA XXXII/466 – Response of Andean countries for dengue control.	Dengue (<u>CD44.R9</u> , 2003).
REMSAA XXXII/467 – Recognition of the	Linked with regional malaria program.
PAMAFRO project and the Andean Regional	
Coordination Mechanism.	Strategy and plan of action on malaria (CD51/11, 2011).
REMSAA XXXII/468 – Human resources planning	Linked with technical program for human resources
and management in health.	development in health.

• Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)

In MERCOSUR, meetings of Working Subgroup 11 (SGT 11) approve resolutions that are then sent to the Common Market Group (GMC) for consideration. The SGT 11 meetings also discuss proposed resolutions that are submitted for internal consultation and study resolutions that propose recommendations. This work is done in the several SGT 11 subcommittees (Health Care, Health Products, Health Surveillance). SGT 11 also deals with resolutions on national coordination. In general, the issues addressed relate to regulation and the harmonization of regulations. PAHO participates as a technical advisory entity on health. The most recent meeting of SGT 11, its 36th regular session, was held in Asunción, Paraguay, from 4 to 8 April 2011. The following resolutions were approved on that occasion and submitted for the consideration of the Common Market Group:

- (a) 02/10 Certification for sale of home health products.
- (b) 03/10 Prohibition of the marketing of human milk in the States Parties of MERCOSUR
- (c) 06/09 Rev.1 Guidelines for Economic Evaluation Studies of Health Technologies.
- (d) 01/10 Rev.1 MERCOSUR Technical Regulations for sunscreens in cosmetics (rescinds Res. GMC No. 26/02).
- (e) 13/09 Rev.2 MERCOSUR Technical Regulations on the list of allowable preservatives in personal hygiene products, cosmetics, and perfumes (rescinds Res. No. 72/00).

Meetings of the MERCOSUR ministers of health are also held. Regular sessions occur at least twice a year (one under each *pro tempore* chairmanship). The 30th Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health was held from 8 to 9 June 2011 in Asunción, Paraguay.

SOUTH AMERICA MERCOSUR 30th Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health Asunción, Paraguay, 8-9 June 2011	
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES
No.1/11 Health Promotion in MERCOSUR.	Health Promotion: Achievements and Aspirations contained in the Ottawa and Bangkok Charters (CD47.R20, 2006)
No.2/11 Creation of the Intergovernmental Commission on Noncommunicable diseases in MERCOSUR.	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action on an Integrated Approach to the Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases, including Diet, Physical Activity, and Health (CD47.R9, 2006).

SOUTH AMERICA MERCOSUR		
		30th Meeting of MERCOSUR Ministers of Health Asunción, Paraguay, 8-9 June 2011
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES	
No. 3/11 Higher health education in MERCOSUR.	Linked with technical program on Human Resources for Health.	
No. 4/11 Prioritization of strategies for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis, and prevention of HIV/STIs in MERCOSUR border areas.	Strategy and Plan of Action for the Elimination of Mother-to-child Transmission of HIV and Congenital Syphilis (CD50.R12, 2010),	
No.5/11 Sexual and reproductive rights of adolescents.	Plan of Action on Adolescent and Youth Health (CD49.R14, 2009).	
No.6/11 Recommendations for strengthening health interventions at the MERCOSUR border.	Progress Report on Technical Matters: International Health Regulations (<i>includes the Report on the [H1N1] Pandemic 2009</i>) (CD49/INF/2, Rev. 1). Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) (CD50/INF/6, 2010).	
No.7/11 Intergovernmental Commission on Social Determinants of Health and Health Promotion.	Linked with technical program on sustainable development and environmental health, and with health promotion activities. Linked with Faces, Voice, and Places Initiative.	
No.8/11 Strategy for the Creation of a MERCOSUR Pharmacopeia.	Linked with the Pan American Network for Drug Regulatory Harmonization. Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010).	
No.9/11 MERCOSUR donation and transplantation registry.	Policy Framework for Human Organ Donation and Transplantation (CD49.R18, 2009).	
Declaration of the MERCOSUR Ministers of Public Health on Tobacco.	Strengthening the Capacity of Member States to Implement the Provisions and Guidelines of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (CD50.R6, 2010).	

Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)

The Heads of State of the ACTO Member Countries resolved to give the organization a "renewed, modern role as a forum for cooperation, exchange, knowledge, and a joint presence to address today's new and complex international challenges." The 10th Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Relations of the ACTO countries, the highest body of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), approved the New Strategic Agenda 2012-2020.

The issues on this new strategic agenda include a Regional Health Management Initiative, whose implementation is the responsibility of the Health Coordination Office of the ACTO Permanent Secretariat. PAHO/WHO has been providing technical cooperation with the Coordination Office in connection with the health chapter of the new Strategic Agenda, and the preparation of a health situation analysis of the Amazon region. The objectives of the ACTO Regional Health Management Initiative are to support action to meet the Millennium Development Goals in the Amazon and coordinate with UNASUR/Health to avoid the duplication of efforts.

This technical cooperation will be formalized with the signing of a Basic Agreement between the two organizations at the 51st Directing Council of PAHO. Hyperlink for information on ACTO: http://www.otca.info/portal/coordenacao-interna.php?p=otca&coord=1

SOUTH AMERICA AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY ORGANIZATION (ACTO) 10th Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Relations Lima, Peru, November 2010		
ACTO STRATEGIC AGENDA 2012-2020: REGIONAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES	
Coordination with other health initiatives: Five-Year Plan of the South American Health Council of UNASUR 2010-2015.	Linked with the technical cooperation that PAHO/WHO carries out with UNASUR/Health.	
Epidemiological surveillance: Maternal and child health; prevalent and metaxenic diseases.	Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Neonatal Health within the Continuum of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Care (CD48.R4, Rev. 1, 2008).	
Environmental health: Surveillance and vector control.	Dengue (<u>CD44.R9</u> , 2003).	
Health determinants in the Amazon.	Linked with the Sustainable Development and Environmental Health area.	
Development of health systems.	Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (CD50.R7, 2010).	

SOUTH AMERICA AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY ORGANIZATION (ACTO) 10th Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Relations Lima, Peru, November 2010		
ACTO STRATEGIC AGENDA 2012-2020: REGIONAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT	RELATION TO PAHO ACTIVITIES	
Technologies to improve the efficiency or effectiveness of health interventions.	Linked with the initiative for Strengthening National Regulatory Authorities for Medicines and Biologicals (CD50.R9, 2010). Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (CD50.R7, 2010).	
Human resources policy for the Amazon.	Strategy for Health Personnel Competency Development in Primary Health Care-based Health Systems (CD50.R7, 2010).	
Driving, strengthening, and consolidating research in the Amazon.	Policy on Research for Health (CD49.R10, 2009).	
Other issues: Indigenous affairs. Conservation, protection, and sustainable exploitation of renewable natural resources.	Health of the Indigenous Peoples in the Americas (CD47.R18). Linked with technical program on Sustainable Development and Environmental Health.	

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