

Since I assumed the post of Director in February 2013, I have been pleased to find that the core values of universality, equity, and Pan American solidarity remain robust within the Pan American Health Organization. It is satisfying to find myself at the helm of an organization with a strong tradition of excellence as well as a palpable openness to change and improvement.





Moving into the Future with Confidence

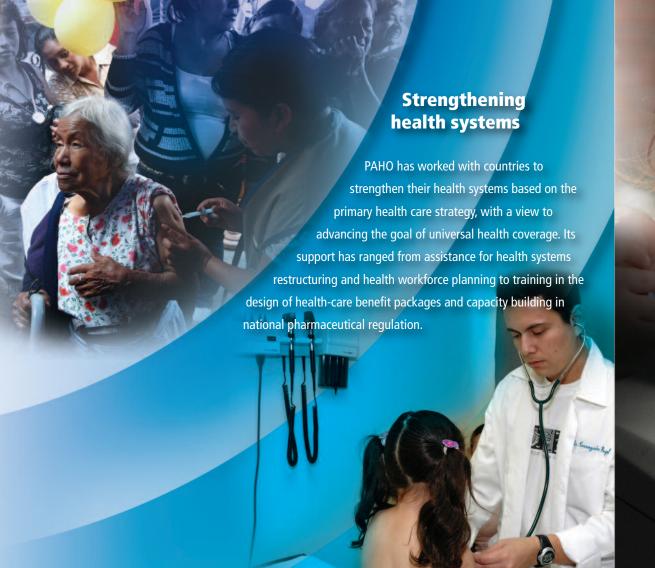
Annual Report of the Director – 2013



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas

Continuity and change

The period 2012-2013 was a time of both continuity and change at the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). PAHO celebrated its 110th year in 2012 and in 2013 welcomed its new Director, Dr. Carissa F. Etienne. Under her leadership, PAHO reorganized its internal structure in order to reposition itself as a flexible, transparent, and responsive organization that brings expertise and innovation to its collaboration with Member States.







to treatment and care.

diseases (NCDs) challenge facing countries in the Americas. To tackle this epidemic, PAHO has promoted an "all-of-society" approach to interventions, and this requires the involvement of governments, th private sector, academia, and while promoting community-based approaches

The environment and health

Environmental conditions have a major impact on health and social equity. In 2012–2013, PAHO worked with countries to promote healthy markets, schools, and communities and advocated for the inclusion of health in all policies and across all sectors. Other efforts in this area have focused on violence, road safety, chemical safety, water and sanitation, and workers' and consumers' health.

Disaster preparedness and response

PAHO helped countries build their capacity to respond to disasters and other emergencies, to reduce risks and improve preparedness in health systems, and to increase the effectiveness of the United Nations Health Cluster in responding to disasters.

Support ranged from the deployment of experts to disaster zones and the promotion of "Safe Hospitals" to training, technical guidance, and the provision of software, manuals, tools, and