

What's New 2009

December

- **PAHO calls for those interested in being experts in the Evaluation System of the National Regulatory Authority of Reference and of the Medication Prequalification System** (December 2009)

([Please follow this link for details--Spanish Only](#))

- **International Press publishes article regarding PAHO's Strategic Fund** (December 2009)

EFE, the leading Spanish language news agency, published an article discussing the acquisition of vaccines in Guatemala through the Strategic Fund

([Please follow this link to view the article](#))

- **PAHO holds meeting discussing Pharmaceutical Policies and Evaluation Indicators in the Region of the Americas** (December 2009)

Durante el 10 y 11 de diciembre de 2009 se llevo a cabo una reunión en Washington, D.C. con el fin de revisar la guía actual sobre formulación, implantación y evaluación de políticas farmacéuticas, que fue publicada por la OMS en el año 2000. El evento fue organizado por el Proyecto de Medicamentos Esenciales y Productos Biológicos de la OPS.

([Please follow this link for information regarding the meeting](#))

- **Regional Perspective of the Global Strategy and Plan Of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property (GSPA) in the Americas: An implementation overview** ([download document](#)) (December 2009)

After the approval at the [61ST World Health Assembly](#) of resolution WHA61.21, [Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property](#), GSPA, and as a result of an extensive consultation process; in October 2008 in its [48th Session](#) PAHO Directing Council endorsed the organization as the leading international agency in the implementation of the Global Strategy through Resolution CD. 48R15, [Global Strategy on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property: a Regional Perspective](#) which urged member States to promote research and technological innovation in the

pharmaceutical, scientific, and manufacturing sectors while strengthening relations and collaboration among key stakeholders.

November

- **PAHO publishes reference document on access to high cost medicines in the Americas** ([download Spanish document](#)) (November 2009)

El documento ha sido elaborado a partir de las conclusiones del Primer Encuentro Internacional sobre Acceso a Medicamentos de Alto Costo y Fuentes Limitadas, realizado en noviembre de 2008 y organizado por la Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS) y los Ministerios de Salud y de Relaciones Exteriores de Brasil, y con la participación de las delegaciones de Argentina, Barbados, Brasil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, México, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, República Dominicana, Suriname y Uruguay.

Los objetivos de este documento son:

Describir la problemática de los medicamentos de alto costo y fuentes limitadas, analizando sus causas, especialmente en relación con los incentivos a la innovación y a la falta de competencia en el mercado farmacéutico;

Identificar políticas y estrategias para promover acceso y garantizar innovación de medicamentos para los países de la Región dentro del contexto de la perspectiva regional de la Estrategia Global sobre salud pública, innovación y propiedad intelectual.

October

- **Strategic Fund included in PAHO Directing Council Resolution** (October 2009)

Demonstrating support for the Strategic Fund, Resolution [CD49.R19](#) was passed during the 49th Directing Council, 61st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas. This resolution urges Member States to continue to support and strengthen the mechanisms for acquiring medications, such as the Strategic Fund, so as to treat neglected diseases at the best cost in order to increase access