

**11th SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PROGRAM, BUDGET, AND ADMINISTRATION
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Provisional Agenda Item 3.1

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**UPDATE ON THE PREPARATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE HEALTH
AGENDA FOR THE AMERICAS 2018-2030**

Introduction

1. On 28 September 2016, at a special event convened by the Minister of Health of Panama during the 55th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), ministers of health and delegates of 23 Member States agreed on a conceptual proposal and roadmap to develop the Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030 (SHAA 2030) and commissioned a Countries' Working Group (CWG)¹ to draft the new Agenda with the support of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau (PASB).
2. Participants at the event considered that the SHAA 2030 should express the Member States' shared vision for health in the Region, building on the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the lessons learned from implementation of the current Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, and implementation of the PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019. They also emphasized that the Agenda should complement national efforts towards the achievement and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Member States.
3. In accordance with the roadmap for the development of the SHAA 2030, the CWG began its activities in October 2016 via virtual and face-to-face meetings to further define the form and the content of the new Agenda.
4. This document presents an update on the work of the CWG and recommendations on the type of document and process to follow for the completion and approval of the SHAA 2030 by the PAHO Governing Bodies in 2017. It also includes an annotated outline for the SHAA 2030.

¹ The CWG is composed of high-level representatives of the health ministries of 16 Member States from all subregions of the Americas, namely: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States of America, and Uruguay. PASB collaborates with the CWG as the technical secretariat for development of the Agenda. Annex B contains the list of CWG members appointed by the ministries of health.

Progress Report

5. Pursuant to the agreements and recommendations of the special event of 28 September 2016, the Ministry of Health of Panama and PASB convened the delegations to the Directing Council for the first virtual meeting of CWG members, held on 28 October 2016. During this meeting it was agreed that Ecuador would serve as chair of the group, while Barbados and Panama would serve as vice-chairs. The CWG also agreed on the terms of reference, working methodology, and schedule of activities to guide its work.

6. The CWG held its second virtual meeting on 21 November 2016 to review progress, as well as the proposed program and the necessary logistics for its first face-to-face meeting. The PASB team also provided orientation on the use of the collaborative site created for the CWG's work via the PAHO Virtual Campus for Public Health.

7. The first face-to-face meeting of the CWG was held in Panama City (Panama) on 12-13 December 2016, with the following objectives:

- a) to agree on the vision, form, and content of the SHAA 2030;
- b) to review and agree on the process and schedule to complete the development of the Agenda; and
- c) to define the process and methodology for the evaluation of the current Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017.

8. After examining the lessons learned from the implementation of the current Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, the PAHO planning frameworks, and the purpose of the new Agenda, the Group agreed that the new Agenda should be a document that provides direction and political vision with clear governance and mechanisms for its implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. In this regard, the Group recommended that the proposal be developed as a PAHO policy document (the highest level in the hierarchy of the Organization's documents), through a process tied to the PAHO Governing Bodies for its review and approval. The CWG members recognized that this would place the Agenda under the governance of the Organization, and its approval will require a resolution that establishes commitments and responsibilities both for Member States and for PASB with respect to its implementation.

9. The CWG held its third virtual meeting on 2 February 2017. The following items were examined during this meeting: *a)* the progress report and proposed outline to be presented to the SPBA; *b)* the initial proposal of goals and targets; *c)* the proposed methodology for the final evaluation of the current Agenda; and *d)* arrangements for the group's next face-to-face meeting.

10. The proposed outline of the document is presented below for consideration by the SPBA. The CWG will hold its face-to-face meeting on 27-29 March 2017, in Quito (Ecuador), immediately after the 11th session of the SPBA, to further develop the contents of the proposal with the aim of presenting an advanced version of the proposal for review by the 160th session of the Executive Committee in June 2017. Several consultations will be also held with Member States before presentation of the final proposal for approval by the 29th Pan American Sanitary Conference in September 2017.

11. Annex A contains the timeline with the key steps agreed upon by the CWG. The reference materials and reports of all CWG meetings are also available from the PAHO Virtual Campus for Public Health.²

Proposed Outline

12. The proposed outline of the SHAA 2030 is presented below, with a brief description of each section.

I. **Executive Summary:** Provides an overview of the content of the document.

II. **Introduction:** Describes the purpose of the SHAA 2030, the process undertaken to develop it, and the structure of the document.

III. **Background:** Describes the main precedents and mandates that led to the development of the new Agenda, including the current Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019, and UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

IV. **Situation Analysis:** Includes a synopsis of the economic, social, and demographic trends, as well as the epidemiological profile, health status, and response of the health systems in the Region. One of the main sources of information for this section will be the "Health in the Americas 2017" publication (prepared by PAHO with the input of Member States). Information from the evaluation of the Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017 and from the progress report on the implementation of PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019 will be also used.

V. **Call to Action:** Vision and Goals for Health and Well-being in the Americas. This is the strategic framework of the SHAA 2030. The core components are described below.

² <https://cursos.campusvirtualsp.org/course/view.php?id=201>.

- a) **Vision:** Defines the shared vision for health in the Region projected to 2030: *"By 2030, the Region of the Americas aspires to be more healthy and equitable, with universal access to health and universal health coverage, with strengthened and resilient health systems, and with significant advances in the social and environmental determinants of health approach"* (proposal under review by the CWG).
- b) **Principles and Values:** Describes the principles and values related to health and social justice: the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health,^{3,4} Pan American solidarity, and equity in health.
- c) **Purpose:** Calls for action for the attainment of higher levels of health and well-being in the Region and in countries, in the new regional and global context, aligning existing regional, subregional, and national initiatives, and promoting commitments for implementation, monitoring, and accountability.
- d) **Objectives:** Presents a set of interrelated goals and targets formulated taking into consideration the health situation in the Region, the current Health Agenda for the Americas 2008-2017, the PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019, and health-related SDGs and their targets, as well as other international commitments on the global health agenda of WHO and other mandates of the UN or Inter-American system.
- e) **Strategies:** Outlines the main approaches ("the how") for successful implementation of the Agenda at the regional, subregional, and country levels, specifying recommendations for PASB and Member States, including inter-agency coordination, cooperation, and partnerships among countries, and intersectoral coordination within the countries of the Region.
- f) **Implementation, Monitoring, and Reporting:** Describes the mechanisms and actions to support the implementation of the SHAA 2030 at the regional, subregional, and country levels, considering those proposed by the United Nations to support the implementation, monitoring, and dissemination of information related to the SDGs and the processes established in PAHO for results monitoring and assessment, and for reporting. At the regional level, the new PAHO strategic plans will serve as key instruments for implementation of the new Agenda.

VI. **References:** Includes references to policy documents and official publications related to planning and policy-making processes at different levels relevant to the proposal.

³ WHO Constitution: "The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political ideology, or economic or social condition."

⁴ Document CD53/5, Rev. 2; 2 October 2014: Strategy for universal access to health and universal health coverage. "8. Universal access to health and universal health coverage are necessary for improving the health outcomes and other basic objectives of health systems, and are based on the right of every person to the enjoyment of the highest standard of health, the equity and the solidarity, values adopted by the Member States of PAHO."

Action by the Subcommittee on Program, Budget, and Administration

13. The Subcommittee is invited to take note of the progress report and to provide comments on the proposed process and outline in order to complete the development of the Sustainable Health Agenda for Americas 2018-2030.

Annexes

Annex A**Timeline for development of the SHAA 2030**

Activity	Date
1. Third virtual meeting of CWG	Third week of January 2017
2. Outline of SHAA 2030 for SPBA	End of January 2017
3. Fourth virtual meeting of CWG	End of February 2017
4. Preparation of draft SHAA 2030 document for 2nd face-to-face meeting of CWG	Mid-March 2017
5. 11th session of PAHO Subcommittee on Program, Budget and Administration (SPBA) Presentation of SHAA 2030 outline by CWG chair	22 to 24 March 2017 Washington, D.C.
6. Second face-to-face meeting of CWG Review of first draft of the Agenda	27 to 29 March 2017 Quito (Ecuador)
7. Review and compile information for final evaluation of HAA 2008-2017	31 March 2017
8. Draft SHAA 2030 document adjusted for consultation with Member States	End of April 2017
9. SHAA 2030 report submitted to Executive Committee	15 May 2017
10. 70th World Health Assembly Side event with ministers of health to present SHAA 2030 proposal	22 to 27 May 2017 Geneva (Switzerland)
11. 160th session of Executive Committee Presentation of SHAA 2030 proposal	26 to 30 June 2017 Washington, D.C.
12. Third face-to-face meeting of CWG Final review of the Agenda	Second or third week of July 2017, Barbados
13. Proposed final SHAA 2030 submitted to 29th Pan American Sanitary Conference	Mid-August 2017
14. 29th Pan American Sanitary Conference Presentation of final SHAA 2030 proposal	25 to 29 September 2017 Washington, D.C.

Annex B

**Members of the Countries' Working Group (CWG)
for the development of the SHAA 2030**

Country	Members
Antigua and Barbuda	Dr. Rhonda Sealy-Thomas Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health
Argentina	Ms. Miguela Pico Undersecretary for Institutional Relations, Ministry of Health Ms. Jorgelina Costanzi Director of International Health Relations, Ministry of Health
Barbados	Dr. Joy St. John Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health
Brazil	Mr. Fábio Rocha Frederico Special Advisor for International Health, Ministry of Health Ms. Indira Meira Gonçalves Technical Specialist for International Health Affairs
Chile	Dr. Matilde Maddaleno Head of the Office for International Cooperation and Relations in Health, Office of the Ministry of Health Ms. Odette Urrutia Professional, Department of Health Planning, Ministry of Health
Costa Rica	Ms. Rosibel Vargas Gamboa Director of Planning and Institutional Development, Ministry of Health
Ecuador	Mr. Peter Skerrett Director of International and Multilateral Relations, Ministry of Public Health Ms. Cristina Fabara General Coordinator for Planning, Ministry of Public Health Ms. Jimena Troya Representative of the Vice Minister of Public Health
El Salvador	Dr. Marina Estela Avalos López Director of Planning, Ministry of Health

Honduras	Dr. Janethe Aguilar Director of Planning and Managerial Evaluation, Ministry of Health
Mexico	Ms. Hilda Dávila Chávez Director-General of the International Health Relations Department, Ministry of Health Ms. Martha Caballero Director of Bilateral and Regional Cooperation, Department of International Health Relations Mr. Luis Adrián Ortiz Blas Deputy Director General for International Policy and Coordination, Office of the Ministry of Health
Nicaragua	Dr. Alejandro Solís Martínez Director of Planning, Ministry of Health
Panama	Dr. Reina Roa Director of Planning, Ministry of Health Ms. Natasha Dormoi Director of International Relations, Ministry of Health Ms. Iritzel Santamaría Assistant Director of Planning, Ministry of Health
Paraguay	Ms. María Antonieta Gamarra Director of International Relations, Ministry of Public Health and Social Well-being Dr. Patricia A. Giménez León Director-General of Planning and Evaluation, Ministry of Public Health and Social Well-being
Peru	Dr. Silvia Esther Pessah Eljay Vice Minister of Public Health Ms. Sofía del Pilar Velásquez Portocarrero Representative of the Office of the Vice Minister of Public Health Ms. María del Carmen Sánchez Manyari Specialist in International Cooperation, Ministry of Public Health

United States of America	<p>Dr. Cristina Rabadan-Diehl Director of the Office of the Americas, Global Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)</p> <p>Mr. Charles Darr International Health Analyst, DHHS</p> <p>Ms. Laura Olsen International Health Analyst, DHHS</p>
Uruguay	<p>Dr. Gilberto Ríos Director of International Relations, Ministry of Health</p>

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