

HEALTH EMERGENCIES PARTNERS' FORUM 2019

"Connecting the dots to chart a joint way forward"

9-10 September 2019 | PAHO Headquarters | Room A | 525 23rd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

Brief Concept Note

About the Partners Forum:

The PAHO Health Emergencies Partners' Forum 2019 provides a unique opportunity for high level decision makers to collaboratively explore current and future challenges faced by our hemisphere and uncover opportunities for continued joint strategic and operational action. Topics that will be addressed during the forum include country preparedness, the international health regulations (IHR), communicable diseases – pandemics and epidemics, addressing the needs of individuals living in situations of vulnerability in emergencies, migrations and health, timely detection and assessment of potential health hazards, safe and smart hospitals, and harnessing the power of new technologies and innovation for preparedness and response.

The forum convenes leaders and decision makers in the field of health emergencies with the aim of enhancing and developing partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of more resilient health systems during and after emergencies. Through this effort, PAHO seeks to enhance coordination amongst partners and mobilize international support for implementing effective and targeted technical cooperation in the Americas. PAHO's actions in the field of health emergencies include preparedness, reduction, prevention, control, detection, and response.

The ultimate objective of the forum's sessions is to obtain targeted inputs leading to the creation of a collaboration roadmap to help guide future engagements between PAHO's Health Emergencies Department and its partners. The timing of this forum is very important as PAHO Health Emergencies Department prepares to implement outcomes 23-25 of PAHO's Strategic Plan 2020-2025. PAHO's Strategic Plan will be presented for final approval by Member States during the 57th Directing Council, 71st Session of the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas - 30 September through 4 October 2019.

Objectives

- **Overall Objective:** To collaboratively explore with partners current and future challenges faced by our hemisphere and uncover opportunities for continued joint strategic and operational action in health emergencies, with a special focus on health security issues.
- **Specific Objective:** To share with partners how we intend to operationalize our work in health emergencies over the next few years and identify synergies that will lead to enhanced collaboration and coordination.
- **Deliverables:** Outcome document with blueprint for collaboration.

Methodology:

- **Panels:** Eight interactive expert discussion panels focused on connecting the dots to chart a way forward.
- **Fair:** PAHO Health Emergencies Fair where the PAHO Health Emergencies team will interact with meeting participants.
- **Speaker:** Key-Note Speaker session to shed light and provide insights in the field of health emergencies.

About PAHO/WHO:

PAHO's unique mandate as the specialized health agency of the Inter American System and WHO's Regional Office for the Americas is underpinned by country level expertise, presence and networks. PAHO assists Member States to strengthen their health sector capacities on prevention, risk reduction, preparedness, surveillance, response and early recovery from health emergencies and disasters caused by any hazard. It also leads and coordinates the international health response when national capacities are overwhelmed.

More information:

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