



**IX MEETING OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN HEALTH COUNCIL  
(In Spanish, CSS) OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AMERICAN  
NATIONS (UNASUR)**

The meeting held in the City of Montevideo, Eastern Republic of Uruguay, on September 11, 2015, the IX Regular Meeting of the South American Health Council Reunion (in Spanish, CSS), was attended by delegations from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Also present at said meeting was the South American Institute for Health Governance (ISAGS), the General Secretariat of the UNASUR (SG), the Andean Health Body (in Spanish, ORAS-CONHU) and the Pan American Health Organization (OPS-OMS).

The meeting was inaugurated by the Pro Tempore President of the CSS, Uruguay's Public Health Minister, Dr. Jorge Basso.

The Participant's list is attached hereto as **Annex**

**I**

The Meeting Agenda is attached hereto as

**Annex II.**

**1. PRO—TEMPORE PRESIDENCY REPORT**

The National Coordinator of Uruguay, Dr. Gilberto Ríos provided the Ministers with a CSS state of affairs report.

Said PTPU report is contained in **Annex IV.**

**2.- HIGH COST MEDICINE**

The Ministers expressed their concern about the significant increase in health costs around the world and drugs in particular that are somehow weakening the sustainability of the public health system.

In that sense and in looking for sustainability in accessing products for health, the Ministers promote sub-regional strategies in order to facilitate universal access to these drugs.

In this sense, they welcome the implementation of the activities included in the "Project for Implementation of the Bank of Drug Prices of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)" through the FIC funds, and the Workshop for implementing the Bank of Drug Prices of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR).

To that end they have declared that there will be public access to the Bank of Drug Prices of the Union of the UNASUR.

In order to reaffirm the commitment of guaranteeing our population the right to universal access to drugs, we are sharing the position to the Meeting of Ministers of MERCOSUR as regards the joint acquisition of high cost drugs.

We therefore celebrate the signing of the agreement for the creation of an *Ad hoc* Committee for Drug Prices Negotiation by the block governments, Decision N°01/2015, included in Annex III;

### 3.- SOUTH AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH GOVERNANCE (in Spanish ISAGS)

The Executive Director of the ISGS, Dr. Jose Gomes Temporao, submitted a report on the situation of the Institute.

It was submitted to the consideration of the Ministers the Declarations: "Strategic Directives for the South American Institute for Health Governance (ISAGS)", "*Annual Operational Plan and Budget for the year 2016 (POA2016)*" and "*Regulations for appointment of the Executive Director of the South American Institute for Health Governance (ISAGS)*".

In this regard, Declarations No 0212015, No 0312015, and No 0412015, have been signed and are included in Annex III.

#### 4.- THIRD PARTY RELATIONS

The delegations acknowledge the importance of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the UNASUR and the PAHO/WHO, which provides for a close collaboration through execution of activities and projects that will strengthen dialogue and institutional cooperation in everything that will foster South American Union and the fulfillment of the parties' objectives.

The Declaration N° 0512015 «Memorandum of Understanding of Cooperation between the Union of South American Nations and the Pan American Health Organization» is included in Annex III.

#### 5. NETWORK OF NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTES—RINCIUNASUR

The Ministers approve the development proposal for a Regional Plan of Integrated Actions "Platform for Exchange of Experiences and Technical Assistance for Prevention and Control of Uterine Cervix Cancer in South America", prepared by the Network of National Cancer Institutes to be submitted to the Fund for Common Initiatives for financing.

The Chilean Delegation proposed a the realization of a Sub-regional Plan for Integral Cancer Control in South America and CC-CSS is instructed to continue with advances for the RING.

The Declaration N°0612015 «*Platform for Exchange of Experiences and Assistance for Uterine Cervix Cancer*».



## 6. PRESENCE OF THE CSSAT THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNASUR GENERAL SECRETARIAT.

In reference to the proposal submitted by the Secretary General, Dr. Ernesto Samper, concerning installation of a Liaison Office for the South American Institute of Health Governance (ISAGS) at the new Headquarters in QUITO.

According to the report submitted to that effect by the Coordinating Committee of the CSS, this issue will remain on the Agenda and the relevant evaluations shall be carried out in order that at the end of the PPTU a CSS position may be submitted in that regard.

## 7. OTHER

### 7.1 MATERNAL MORTALITY

In the wake of the concerns voiced by several countries regarding the new methodology presented by the WHO/UNMMEIG for calculating maternal mortality, at the final stretch of the ODMs compliance evaluation without considering the political impact that said changes may have on the UNASUR countries and other developing countries the Ministers issue Declaration No 07/2015 included in Annex III.

### 7.2 FINAL PHASE FOR ERADICATION FOR THE WILD POLIO VIRUS

The Argentine delegation made a presentation on POLIO and submits it to the Member States for consideration, which is to call the attention of the WHO concerning the delay in implementation of the Final phase of the eradication of the wild poliovirus, until two vaccination doses of IPV are available for all countries.

It also submitted a draft UNASUR declaration in order to discuss and reach a consensus for submission to WHO.

This issue shall remain on the agenda and the PTPU shall implement its development. Presentation and the document are contained in **Annex V**.

### **7.3 CHILD OBESITY**

The Chilean Minister of Health expressed the intention to sign a Framework Agreement on Child Obesity, such as the one existing for Tobacco Control (CMCT).

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

The Minister of Public Health of Uruguay and Pro Tempore President of the CSS, Dr. Jorge Basso, thanked the presence of the delegations and adjourned the meeting.

### **ANNEXES**

**ANNEX I** List of participants

**ANNEX II** Agenda

**ANNEX III** Declarations

**ANNEX IV** PTPU REPORT

**ANNEX V FINAL PHASE FOR**

**ERADICATION OF WILD**

**POLIOVIRUS**

Signed by the Republic of Argentina

Signed by the Plurinational State of Bolivia

Signed by the Federate Republic of Brazil  
Signed by the Republic of Chile  
Signed by the Republic of Colombia  
Signed by the Republic of Ecuador  
Signed by the Republic of Paraguay  
Signed by the Republic of Suriname  
Signed by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Signed by the Eastern Republic of Uruguay



MINISTERIE VAN VOLKSGEZONDHEID  
REPUBLIEK SURINAME

Paramaribo, 03 September 2015

Ref. no.: 925 mVo

Enclosure:

Subject: Reply to Invitation reg. *"1st Extraordinary Meeting of Ministers of Health of MER and Associated States"*, Montevideo, Uruguay, September 11<sup>th</sup> 2015

To: Dr. Antonio Carlos Barrios F.  
The Minister of Public Health and Social Welfare Uruguay

With reference to your invitation letter, with Ref. no MP y B /O RRH/PPTP No:2.8/15 dated August 31st 2015 regarding the *"1st Extraordinary Meeting of Ministers of Health of MER and Associated States"*, held on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the

ottage Hotel, Montevideo Republic of Uruguay, I hereby regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend aforementioned meeting due to their urgent obligation.

Therefore please be informed that Mr. Miriam Naarendorp, Head of the Pharmaceutical Inspectorate, will be participating on my behalf.

Best regards,

I.P.

The Minister of Health of Suriname

c.: The Minister of Foreign Affairs Suriname Ambassador N. Badriing



Asunción, 3 de Agosto de 2015


MSPyBS/DGRRH/PPTP N° 20 /15

TO THE MINISTER:

It is my pleasure to call Your Excellency, serving as head of the Paraguay an Pro Tempore Presidency of the MERCOSUR and Associated States for the Extraordinary Meeting of Health Ministers of the MERCOSUR and Associated States to be held on 11 September 2015, from 8:00 to 09:00, at the Hotel Cottage, Montevideo, Eastern Republic of Uruguay.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold a dialogue concerning the advances on access to drugs and the signing of the AGREEMENT FOR THE CREATION OF AN *AD HOC* COMMITTEE FOR NEGOTIATING DRUGS PRICES WITHIN MERCOSUR AND ASSOCIATED STATES; according to that agreed upon at the Meeting of Ministers of Health of the MERCOSUR last June, under Brazil's Pro Tempore Presidency.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to your Excellency the assurances of our highest consideration and esteem.

  
DR. ANTONIO CARLOS BARRIOS F.  
MINISTRO

YOUR EXCELLENCY  
ING. PATRICK PENGEL, MINISTER  
HEALTH MINISTRY OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF  
SURINAME  
PARAMARIBO

Annex: Proposed Agenda.





MERCOSUR Pro Tempore HEALTH  
Presidency of Paraguay

Extraordinary Meeting of Health Ministers of the MERCOSUR and  
Associate States

Place: Hotel Cottage, Montevideo— Eastern Republic of Uruguay  
Date: 11 September 2015.

Schedule	Activity
08:00-08:10	Opening of Meeting by PPTP. Welcome address by Health Minister of Paraguay, Dr. Antonio Barrios.*
08:10-08:15	Reading and Approval of the Agenda.
08:15-08:25	Presentation by Ministers of Health of the MERCOSUR and Associated States
08:25-08:50	Reading of the Draft Agreement for the Creation of an Ad hoc Committee for Negotiating the Drug Prices within MERCOSUR and its Associated States and Comments by the Ministers of Health
08:50-09:00	Signing of the Agreement session
09:00	Closing Paraguay Minister of Health, Dr Antonio Sarrios.