



**Third Session of the Scientific Committee
Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME)**

**BIREME/PAHO/WHO
Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health (EIH)**

The third session of the Scientific Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME/PAHO/WHO) was held at BIREME, in São Paulo, Brazil, on December 7 and 8, 2017, in compliance with the Resolution 5 of the 49th PAHO/WHO Directing Council (CD49.R5), which approved BIREME's Statute, effective as of 2010, which defines its new institutional framework.

The current members of the Scientific Committee were appointed during the sixth Session of BIREME Advisory Committee on February 2, 2017 for a three-year term (2017-2019). They are specialists from six (6) PAHO/WHO Member States: Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Jamaica and Mexico.

FINAL REPORT

São Paulo (SP), December 7 and 8, 2017

FINAL REPORT

Session Opening

- 1) On December 7 and 8, 2017, at BIREME, in the city of São Paulo, Brazil, the Third Session of the Scientific Committee of the Center took place, which serves advisory functions before the Advisory Committee and the Director of PAHO/WHO. The Session started with welcome words by Diego González Machín, Director of BIREME and Secretary *ex officio* of the Scientific Committee, who gave the floor to Francisco Becerra, Deputy Director of PAHO/WHO and Interim Director of the Department of Knowledge Management, Bioethics and Research (KBR), who mentioned the importance to rely on a Specialized Center on Scientific and Technical Information for the Region, that facilitates access to quality information, and promotes visibility of scientific output of Latin America and the Caribbean. He also recognized the support of the members of BIREME Governance Committees who also represent the Organization's Member States.
- 2) The presence and participation of specialists of the Scientific Committee was appreciated and the importance of conducting the meeting in the context of the development of the Center was highlighted. The members of the Committee were introduced and the work was initiated.
- 3) In order to contribute effectively to the discussions and the effective contribution of recommendations by the members and participants, the Session was attended by Mauricio Bustamante, PAHO/WHO Temporary Consultant, with experience in health services management.

PRESENTATIONS

- 4) On December 7, 2017. The presentation "*BIREME TODAY*" - *Products and services of BIREME as PAHO/WHO Technical Cooperation* by Diego Gonzalez Machín, Secretary *ex-officio* who was supported by the management, administration and technical team of BIREME highlighted the main elements that distinguish the Center, as well as its technical cooperation program, projects, products and services available to the countries of the Region (and elsewhere) at local, national, regional and global levels. He also emphasized the historical importance of BIREME in the Region of the Americas as a Specialized Center of the Organization, consolidated in its 50 years of existence, celebrated in 2017, also by the number of institutions (more than two thousand) that operate in network for the access and use of scientific and technical information in health. It was informed that institutionally, from January/18 BIREME would be part of the Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health (EIH) Department, since KBR (Knowledge Management Bioethics and Research) was dismembered.
- 5) On December 8, 2017. The presentation "*BIREME - Needs and Benefits of Health Information for Decision Making - A Late Look from a Manager in the Operation of*

Health Services and in the Territory" by Mr. Mauricio Bustamante, PAHO/WHO Temporary Adviser with experience in the management of Health Services, socialized a vision of BIREME's potential and how the Center could strengthen its alliances with the decision makers in the Region by weighing the needs and benefits of health information for decision making.

- 6) The discussions and recommendations were addressed to the following topics:
 - a. What can BIREME do that nobody else does, what is its added value? How to expand work at the country level or south-south cooperation?
 - b. Potentialities of BIREME's role in PAHO Strategic Plan and its role in achieving the SDG: How to link with the Sustainable Health Agenda of the Americas and achieving the SDG?

Matters concerning Regulation

- 7) On December 8, 2017, the following specialists were chosen to constitute the Board of Directors of BIREME Scientific Committee in its Third Session.:

Presidency:	Ileana Regla Alfonso Sanchez (Cuba)
Rapporteur:	Roberto Carlos Pacheco (Brazil)

Comments and Recommendations

- 8) The discussions, comments and recommendations issued, facilitated by the President of the Session and by the Secretary *ex officio* were directed towards the continuous development and strengthening of BIREME, expressed in proposals for effective dissemination of its projects, products and services in the countries of the Region besides the need to venture into strategic issues.
- 9) It is important to follow the recommendations in the two topics, which were widely discussed and agreed among the members of the Scientific Committee:

First TOPIC: *What can BIREME do that nobody else does, what is its added value? How to expand work at the country level or south-south cooperation?*

Efrén Carlos Oropeza Abúndez, Scientific Communication. Mexico

Recognize the identity of BIREME and define actions to disseminate the Center's work in the countries; Support and promote open access policies through LILACS, taking into account innumerable international recent initiatives in this regard; and Develop products for the analysis of scientific output for institutions and/or countries through impact metrics.

Ileana Regla Alfonso Sanchez, Information Management. Cuba

Strengthen VHL and LILACS as open access instruments to democratize access to health information.

Roberto Carlos Pacheco, Knowledge Engineering and Information Systems. Brazil

Undertake alliances, strengthen governance and collaborative production in the development of projects, products and services.

Mario Guillermo Tristán Lopez, Scientific Research. Costa Rica

Participate in open science initiatives and scientific dissemination aimed at the population to make viable citizen commitment.

Jaider Ochoa Gutiérrez, Education and Knowledge Management. Colombia

Support open science practices (open access, open data, metrics and alternative metrics available openly) and show positioning in this sense; Develop observatories - with the appropriate information architecture - for consultation by decision makers.

Second TOPIC: *Potentialities of BIREME's role in PAHO Strategic Plan and its role in achieving the SDG: How to link with the Sustainable Health Agenda of the Americas and achievement of the SDG?*

Georgiana Marie Gordon-Strachan, Scientific Research. Jamaica

Support the 2030 Agenda through the implementation of the SDGs, given that the information is transversal; and Map what countries are doing regarding the SDG.

Mario Guillermo Tristan Lopez, Scientific Research. Costa Rica

Promote the exchange of information between countries on successful projects and experiences; and Consider the judicialization in health considering the individual and collective rights.

Roberto Carlos Pacheco, Knowledge Engineering and Information Systems. Brazil

Evaluate public policies with trends towards the implementation of SDGs 6 and 7; and Analyze supply and demand to create multisectoral projects, having health defined and perceived as public good (*commons*).

Jaider Ochoa Gutierrez, Education and Knowledge Management. Colombia

Keep BIREME strengthened as a reference in supporting scientific communication.

Ileana Regla Alfonso Sanchez, Information Management. Cuba
Evaluate potentials, actions and areas of action with focus on training.

Efrén Carlos Oropeza Abúndez, Scientific Communication. Mexico
Consider the experience of some countries on “the health in all policies” initiative.

The delegates reiterated their support for the continued development and strengthening of BIREME as a regional reference institution in scientific and technical health information with the objective of strengthening the democratization of information in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Other topics

- 10) The members of the Committee and the participants reached a consensus on the recommendations already included in this final report, which will be sent for consideration by the Director of PAHO / WHO.
- 11) The presence of the members of the Committee was acknowledged, highlighting the discussions held and the results achieved in the meeting, as well as the BIREME team for their performance in the Center on scientific health information and especially in holding the III Session of the Scientific Committee.

Session Closure

After the exchange of recognitions and expressions of courtesy, the main objectives reached were pointed out towards the new institutional positioning of the Center.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, the Sixth Session of the Advisory Committee of the Latin American and Caribbean Center for Information in Health Sciences (BIREME) was ended, the President of the Meeting and the specialist delegate in information management, of Cuba and the Director, of BIREME and Secretary *ex officio*, signed this final report in the original language, Spanish.

It took place in São Paulo, Brazil, on the seventh and eighth day of the month of December of the year two thousand and seventeen.

The original signed document will be deposited in the archives of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau.

Ileana Regla Alfonso Sanchez
President of the Third Session of the
Scientific Committee of BIREME/PAHO/WHO

Diego González Machín
Director of BIREME/PAHO/WHO
Secretary *ex officio* of the Third Session of the
Scientific Committee of BIREME/PAHO/WHO

Annexes
Annex A

Agenda

Session Opening

Presentation by the Secretary *ex officio* who highlighted the Center's technical cooperation program, its projects, products and services available to the countries of the Region (and outside it) at local, national, regional and global levels of action.

Presentation by Mr. Mauricio Bustamante, a PAHO/WHO advisor who socialized a vision of BIREME's potential and how the Center could strengthen its partnerships with decision makers in the Region by weighing the needs and benefits of health information for decision making.

Debate, questions and answers

Institutional, strategic, normative and political documents, and the potential role of BIREME:

- Establishment of a New Institutional Framework for the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME), Resolution approved at the 49th Directing Council (CD49.R5), held at the PAHO Headquarters on September 28 to October 2, 2009
- Work Plan (BWP) of BIREME for the biennium 2018-2019
- Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2018-2030: A Call to Action for Health and Wellbeing in the Region (CSP29/6), approved at the 29th Pan American Sanitary Conference (CSP29.R2), held at PAHO Headquarters on September 25 to 29, 2017
- PAHO/WHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019 – Championing Health: Sustainable Development and Equity, approved at the 52nd Directing Council (CD52.R8), held at PAHO Headquarters on September 30 to October 4, 2013

Annex B

DOCUMENTS LIST

Work documents

1. Agenda of the Third Session of the Scientific Committee of BIREME
2. List of Participants
3. BIREME Executive Report
4. Statute "Establishment of a New Institutional Framework for the Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (BIREME)". CD49.R5
5. Terms of Reference of the Scientific Committee of BIREME
6. Regulation of the Scientific Committee of BIREME
7. Biennial Work Plan (BWP) of BIREME 2018-2019
8. Final Report of the First Session of the Scientific Committee of BIREME
9. Final Report of the Second Session of the Scientific Committee of BIREME
10. Sustainable Health Agenda for the Americas 2030 (ASSA 2030)
11. PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019
12. Presentation: BIREME Today
13. Presentation: CRICS Issue 10
14. CRICS Concept Notes

Note: The reports of the sessions and the documents were distributed in a flashdrive offered by BIREME/PAHO/WHO at the meeting.

Annex C

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ CIENTÍFICO

Efrén Carlos Oropeza Abúndez, Scientific Communication. Mexico

Georgiana Marie Gordon-Strachan, Scientific Research. Jamaica

Ileana Regla Alfonso Sanchez, Information Management. Cuba

Jaidier Ochoa Gutierrez, Education and Knowledge Management. Colombia

Mario Guillermo Tristan Lopez, Scientific Research. Costa Rica

Roberto Carlos Pacheco, Knowledge Engineering and Information Systems. Brazil

PAHO/WHO, Headquarters

Francisco Becerra Posada

Assistant director

Interim Director of the Area of Knowledge Management, Bioethics and Research (KBR)

Mauricio Bustamante García, Consultant

BIREME/PAHO/WHO

Diego González Machín, Director and Secretary *ex officio*

DIR – Director of the Center

Carmen Verônica M. Abdala, Manager

PFI/SCI - Cooperative Information Services and Production of Information Sources

Renato T. Murasaki, Manager

AFI/MTI - Methodology and Information Technology and Administration of
Information Sources

Marcos Mori, Supervisor RST

Silvia Almeida de Valentin, Manager

GA - Administrative Management and Planning

Marcia Ymanaka Barretto, IT Coordinator

Adriano de Sá, Controller

Annex D

ACRONIMS USED IN THIS REPORT

BIREME	Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information, known as Regional Library of Medicine at its foundation (BIREME - acronym in Portuguese)
CD49	49 th Session of PAHO/WHO Directive Council
CD49.R5	Resolution 5 of the 49 th Session of PAHO/WHO Directive Council
CD52	52 th PAHO/WHO Directive Council
CD52.R8	Resolution 58 of the 52 th PAHO/WHO Directive Council
CRICS	Regional Congress on Health Sciences Information
CSP29	29 th PAHO/WHO Pan Americana Sanitary Conference
CSP29.R2	Resolution 2 of the 29 th PAHO/WHO Pan Americana Sanitary Conference
DeCS	Health Science Descriptors
LILACS	Latin American and Caribbean Literature in Health Sciences, main regional bibliographic database of BIREME
VHL	Virtual Health Library