



## New Board of Directors of RCM for the period 2018-2020

### Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) Board of Directors Members period 2018 to 2020

1. RCM Chairmanship: Dr. Aurelio Nuñez, HIV Principal Member - Ministry of Health Panama
2. Malaria Technical Group Vice Chairmanship: Dr. José Orlander Nicolás, Malaria Principal Member- Secretariat of Health Honduras
3. HIV Technical Group Vice Chairmanship: Lic. Otoniel Ramírez, Principal Member of the Central America Network of People with HIV (REDCA+)
4. RCM Secretary: Licda. Maria Marte, Alternate Member of Regional League of the Civil Society of fight against malaria.



The past May 29 and 30, 2018 it took place in El Salvador the RCM Annual Plenary Regional Meeting, where the new Board of Directors was elected for the period 2018-2020. At the Assembly attended all members representing the government sector on themes of HIV and Malaria from the region countries, representatives from Civil Society and International Cooperation Organizations.

You can access to power point presentations of this meeting through the link: <https://bit.ly/2HlrOJ1>  
Find the Final Minute of Agreements through the link: <https://bit.ly/2kRtvFi>

## COMISCA approved the Technical proposal to approach Malaria from a gender, interculturality and human rights perspective, which was presented by the RCM.



During the XLVIII Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and Dominican Republic (COMISCA), held in Dominican Republic on June 20 and 21, 2018; the RCM Chairmanship presented a technical proposal to approach malaria based on gender, interculturality and human rights gaps identified by the countries of the region.

This proposal includes the contributions of the Regional League of the Civil Society in the fight against malaria, Focal points of malaria and gender from the Ministries and Secretariat of Health and Country Coordination Mechanisms.

The resolutions of COMISCA were:

- Approve the Technical proposal to approach the malaria from a gender, interculturality and human rights perspective in the framework of the Health Plan of Central America and the Dominican Republic.
- Instruct the SE-COMISCA so that, together with the RCM, Regional Technical Committees and competent specialized technical groups follow up on the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the technical proposal.

Find Power point [presentation](#) and Executive [summary](#)

## XVII Ordinary Meeting of the Central America Network of People with HIV (REDCA+) Extended



On June 11, 2018, was developed the General Assembly of REDCA+ extended in El Salvador, with the purpose to review technical and financial advances of the Regional Project: “Ensuring, through Political Advocacy Actions, Universal Access to Health and Respect for Human Rights in the Response to HIV in Central America, to Improve the Quality of Life of People with HIV”, which concluded its second year of implementation.

Every year the Regional Secretariat of the Network meets with members of Advisory Group, National Focal Points, REDCA+ Representatives of the Country Coordination Mechanisms (CCM) from all the countries of the Central America region, Principal Recipient of the regional project-SISCA and special guests.

Find agreements of this meeting through this link: <https://bit.ly/2tQTDDZ>

## Technical Meeting to Joint Negotiation of ARV

On May 31, the RCM HIV focal points participated in a Technical Meeting organized by the Executive Secretariat of COMISCA, with the objective to analyze the Joint Negotiation mechanism to acquire antiretroviral medicines, medical supplies, diagnostic and genotype tests, so that create a critical route based on an integral analysis of gaps previously identified that delay the process, including national acquisition and procurement processes within the Ministries and Secretariats of Health.

The process to analyze and incorporate ARV and laboratory supplies for HIV in the joint negotiation has its substratum in the Regional sustainability of the response to HIV Strategy, which was approved by the Summit of Presidents of the countries of the SICA region.

At present there is a negotiated price of 3 antiretrovirals, available to countries for their internal and analysis of procurement process.

The JOINT NEGOTIATION COMISCA: Is the Regional Mechanism of cost containment to favor access to medicines, medical devices or other goods of sanitary interest, that meet the requirements of quality, safety and efficacy at favorable prices, so that the purchase becomes effective in each of the public health institutions of the Member States of SICA. The Joint Negotiation is coordinated by SE-COMISCA and it is performed in two steps: prequalification and negotiation of prices.

Find Power point presentations and agenda through this link: <https://bit.ly/2sPixVb>



## RCM Chairman participates in the Latin America Meeting of the Global Fund



The topics addressed during the 39<sup>a</sup> Board of Directors Meeting of the Global Fund (GF) held in Skopje, Macedonia, on May 9-10, 2018, included the approval of the revision of the Policy on eligibility, interaction with non-eligible countries in crisis, designation of committee's members, evolution of the CCM and the framework of acceptance to risk; among others.

The RCM has had an active participation during the consultation process of eligibility and performance criteria from GF to CCM and RCM.

Check the principal decision points through this link: <https://bit.ly/2KbhN7u>

## REDCA+ subscribes a Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement with PARLACEN-REDCA+ - SISCA

This activity was developed on Wednesday 25, April 2018, at the headquarters of the Central American Parliament of Guatemala. During the signing of the Agreement participated the Chairman of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), Mr. Tony Raul, Dr. Alfredo Suárez Mises, in his capacity of General Secretary of the Secretariat of Central American Social Integration- SISCA as an Honor Witness of the legal instrument to be signed and Mr. Otoniel Ramírez Regional Secretary of the REDCA +.

The objective of the Agreement is to establish the basis of collaboration between the Parties; with the purpose to contribute of a nonexclusive form of mutual interest, standing out between them, the promotion, respect and assurance of human rights of people with HIV in the Central America region.



## RCM participates in the Regional Technical Meeting of Medicines



Based on an analysis of gaps in the joint negotiation process of antiretroviral prices and laboratory supplies for HIV, on April 17 in El Salvador, the RMC presented its recommendations to the process to the Regional Technical Commission on Drugs (CTRM).

The principal objective is to coordinate with the members of the CTRM and take advantage of the joint negotiation mechanism to procure medicines and HIV supplies that are required by the programs and the attention areas of HIV.

The joint negotiation has demonstrated to be effective to reduce costs of medicines and sanitary supplies in the region, which has allowed to get substantial savings in the national budgets.

## SUSTAINABILITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HIV/AIDS PROJECT USAID/PLAN INTERNATIONAL

The Sustainability and Human Rights in HIV Project has arrived at the Central America region to promote the sustainability of response to HIV in the region, working simultaneously to reduce the stigma and discrimination addressed to people living with HIV and key population.

The area of influence of the project covers: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

During the RMC Regional Meeting held in El Salvador on May, representative of the project was invited to participate in the RMC as a member with voice and without vote, as it is established in the rules of procedures of RMC.



## THE FIRST PHASE OF IREM IMPLEMENTATION BEGAN



As part of programming of the Regional Initiative to Eliminate the Malaria in Central America and Dominican Republic (IREM), on February started the missions of identification which have the objective to socialize the implementation of accords with national counterparts from IDB, CHAI and PAHO/WHO.

In these missions, meetings were held with the Ministers of Health to socialize the objective and scope of the IREM, named the political counterpart, organized the technical team that will manage the operation, identified the source of counterpart resources and ratified the amount of it, agreed the preparation

timetable of the operation with the national authorities and agreed the working mechanisms of the members of the operational strategic committee based in the country.

At present, all the countries have received the missions of identifications and some of them have advanced to the preparation phase to define the results and performance framework, the work plan that includes a technical and fiduciary component, among others.

RCM and Executive Secretariat of COMISCA have given support to the missions in different countries.

*"There is a driving force more powerful than steam, electricity and atomic energy, THE WILL"*

*Albert Einstein*

## Civil Society committed to eliminate malaria

**Nicaragua:** San Lucas, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, have visited to supervise and accompany the Community Network of volunteer's collaborators (ColVol) in the Esperanza, Waspam Rio Coco community, autonomous region of Nicaragua North Caribbean. In this sector 151 ColVol are assisted from 49 communities, 29 of which did not present cases of malaria in 2017.

The community commissions of Health are integrated by shepherd of churches, traditional doctors, midwives, whihtas (judges), Ancient Counsel, teachers and other local actors, as part of the strategy to promote participation of civil society in the prevention and control of malaria.

Every month, the commissions gather to analyze the behavior of the epidemic through the community situational rooms, from which action plans are made.

The community network of collaborators also carries out educational activities to the population that attends to the thick blood sampling.

The 17% of the thick blood sampling which were analyzed in SILAIS Bilwi Health Units in 2017, were provided by the community network of volunteer collaborators in communities with difficult access.



**Costa Rica:** In Matina canton, hamlets, bananas production areas and other communities are giving follow up to field work, monitoring breeding farms of anopheles, search of larval nurseries; all this in coordination with the Ministry of Health with whom all activities are coordinated at local level.

The Ministry of Health also coordinates with civil society in the Batan region to prevent recurrence of new cases.

**Dominican Republic:** A coordinated community work has been carried out through Marien radio and the linkage of border women mother's centers, who have a successful record of service and have distributed 15,000 mosquito nets, in coordination with the Ministry of Health.

Programming of Marien Radio establishes reproduction of informative radial wedges about control of malaria in the community and how this one can be prevented.



*All joined to beat malaria.*

"Based on a gradual application of the principle of financing based on results, we congratulate the RCM for the results of this first year of agreement. We urge you to continue with your performance and continuously improve your processes and internal evaluations to ensure the sustainability of the mechanism "... Global Fund

This feedback was given the first year of financing which was given by the Global Fund to RCM through the Secretariat of Central American Social Integration-SISCA, between March 2017 to February 2018.

Regarding technical and programmatic performance, the RCM and its Technical Secretariat complied with indicators established by the Global Fund, optimizing the resources by obtaining a budgetary execution of 95% at the closure of the reporting period.

To meet the technical results report, give a click here <https://bit.ly/2yRCwb7>

### Welcome to new members of RCM

Confirmed to date during the present year, we welcome to the RCM to the following persons:

Government Sector	Civil Society	Cooperation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eduardo Romero, Malaria Alternate, Ministry of Health El Salvador.</li><li>• Rafael Pitti, HIV Alternate Ministry of Health Panamá.</li><li>• Cristhian Toledo, Malaria Alternate, Ministry of Health Nicaragua.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• María Marte, Alternate of Regional League of the CS of fight against malaria.</li><li>• Rosibel Zuñiga, Alternate of Central American Network of people with HIV-REDCA+.</li><li>• Mariela Terán, turns from alternate member to Principal Member of FEDEPRICAP (Private Enterprise)</li><li>• Lina Mejía, Alternate member of FEDEPRICAP (Private Enterprise)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Olivia Brathwaite, Alternate PAHO/WHO</li><li>• Alicia Sánchez, Alternate UNAIDS</li><li>• Nasim Farach, turns from Alternate member to Principal Member of CDC.</li></ul>

We invite you to visit our web page [www.mcr-comisca.org](http://www.mcr-comisca.org) and social network in Facebook as Mecanismo de Coordinación Regional (Regional Coordination Mechanism)