The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is an international public health agency with 110 years of experience working to improve health and living standards of the people of the Americas. It enjoys international recognition as part of the United Nations system, serving as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization, and as the health organization of the Inter-American System. PAHO is based in Washington, D.C., and has experts at its headquarters, in its 27 country offices, and its 3 scientific centers.

Main Radiological Health Activities in 2017

The main technical cooperation topics include:

- improving quality and access to medical imaging and radiotherapy services;
- promoting regulations to protect against ionizing radiation based on the BSS;
- strengthening of the countries’ capacity to prepare and respond to radiological or nuclear emergencies;
- advising on health technologies incorporation and management to enhance the performance of radiological services

**Key activities**

To improve radiation safety, and access to and quality of radiation medicine services, the following activities have been recently carried out:

- Assessment of Radiotherapy Services of **Bermuda** and of Radiology Services in **Trinidad and Tobago** where the regulatory capacities are limited or non-existent.
- Organization of courses, workshops and educational activities on several topics Diagnostic Imaging to improve quality and safety in **Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, and Guatemala**.
- More than 150 radiotherapy photon beams are annually checked in Latin American and the Caribbean through the IAEA/PAHO postal dose quality program.
- Provided webminars and on-line courses on: Pediatric Imaging, Pedantic Ultrasound, and the Role of Radiology on Tuberculosis

International congress, meetings and conferences:

- PAHO participated and cooperated in the organization of a Regional Workshop on Standards for Radioactivity in Food, Drinking Water and Commodities, organized by the IAEA in cooperation with WHO, the Joint FAO/IAEA Division, and PAHO. Buenos Aires, **Argentina**, 21 to 23 de March 2017.
- PAHO participated and contributed to the International Conference on the Technical Cooperation Programme: Sixty Years and Beyond- Contributing to Development, organized by the IAEA and held in Vienna, **Austria**, 30 May to 1 June 2017.
- PAHO organized in cooperation with the IAEA the Workshop on Bridging Radiation Emergencies Preparedness and Response in CARICOM Member States and Overseas Territories in the Caribbean Sub-Region: The Perspective from GSR Part 7 Requirements and the IHR, in Miami FL, **United States**, 6-8 June 2017.
- PAHO cosponsored, supported and participated in the International Symposium on Radiation Protection in Medicine, Arequipa, **Peru**, 20-24 August 2017.
• PAHO organized, hosted and chaired the 19th Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety (IACRS) meeting held at PAHO/HQ in Washington DC, **United States**, from 12 to 14 September 2017. PAHO assumed the chair of the IACRS for the next 18 months.

• PAHO participated in the Interim Coordination Meeting of IAEA Project RLA/9/082 “Establishing and Strengthening Sustainable National Regulatory Infrastructure for the Control of Radiation Sources,” **Antigua and Barbuda**, 06 -10 November 2017.

• PAHO participated in the 43rd Meeting of the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASCC), Vienna, **Austria**, 14 to 15 November 2017.

• PAHO is cosponsoring and supporting the “International Conference on Radiation Protection in Medicine: Achieving Change in Practice” organized and hosted by the IAEA on 11-15 December 2017 at IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, **Austria**.

• PAHO is cosponsoring and supporting the XI IRPA Regional Congress on Radiation and Nuclear Safety, Havana, **Cuba**, 23-27 April 2018.

**Publications**

• Manual “*Mammography Services Quality Assurance: Baseline Standards for Latin America and the Caribbean*” English and Spanish editions.