



## The Annual Ordinary Plenary Meeting of the Consumer Safety and Health Network was successfully held



On September 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of 2014, was held in Brasilia, DF, Brazil, the first Annual Ordinary Plenary Meeting of the Consumer Safety and Health Network (CSHN), created in 2014 by the General Assembly of OAS resolution AG/RES. 2830 (XLIV-O/14).

Were represented at the meeting the competent authorities in consumer product safety in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay, in addition to Spain and Portugal as observers, the OAS General Secretariat as Technical Secretariat, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Brazilian National System of Consumer Protection representatives, the National System of Health Surveillance, the Brazilian Network of Metrology and Quality and civil society and academia.

The Plenary appointed as officers of the Management Committee for the period 2014-2015, Brazil (President), Peru and Colombia (Vice Presidents) and Chile and Mexico (Members), and Colombia as President for the period 2015-2016. In addition, Ecuador and the United States entered to the Working Group of the Inter-American Rapid Alert System (IARAS).

Among other decisions, the lines of action for the CSHN work during the period 2014-2015 were established, based on five main themes: CSHN sustainability, strengthening cooperation among peers at the hemispheric level, through the implementation of the Inter-American Rapid Alert System (IARAS), the signing of bilateral and sub-regional promotion and consumer education, suppliers, academia and public administrators; and integration of efforts with other global and sub-regional forums.

On this occasion, the countries approved the System, which is the first integrated alert system in the region to

identify, monitor and exchange information about unsafe products, system from which started the implementation process of the public, private and secure modules of IARAS.

## OAS and Spain Sign Agreement on Consumer Security and Health



The Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), José Miguel Insulza, and the President of the Spanish Agency for Consumption, Food Security and Nutrition (AECOSAN), Pilar Farjas Abadía, signed this week a memorandum of understanding to exchange assistance and information between the two organizations to strengthen and improve the knowledge, protection and defense of consumers.

The memorandum of understanding was signed in the framework of the course “Current Problems concerning the Right to Consumption,” which is being held from August 25 to 28, 2014, as part of the program of Summer Courses at the International University Menéndez Pelayo, with the support of the University of Cantabria and the General Business and Consumption Direction of Cantabria. The course was inaugurated by the General Secretary of Health and Consumption of the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality of Spain, Pilar Farjas Abadía, who participated, with the General Secretariat of the OAS, in the roundtable “The importance of the Administration in the protection of consumers.”

In order to reinforce the role developed in the area, both organizations agreed to cooperate in promoting consumer health and safety. Likewise, they committed themselves to facilitate the regular exchange of information and training, as well as the promotion of specific projects and joint actions, taking into account and promoting the participation of other related organizations.

The pictures are available [here](#).

## Ibero-American Forum of Consumer Protection Agencies held its annual meeting in Bogota



The Ibero-American Forum of Government Consumer Protection Agencies (FIAGC) held its annual meeting in Bogota, on August 28th and 29th. As part of each annual meeting, the Member States signed a Declaration incorporating the major commitments that will guide the work of the Forum during the period corresponding to each Pro Tempore Presidency, currently held by Colombia.

In the Declaration, the members of FIAGC decided to "continue to support the work of the Consumer Safety and Health Network (CSHN), as well as the implementation of the Inter-American Rapid Alert System (IARAS) ".

[Declaration of Bogotá](#)

## The International Seminar on Consumer Safety and Health Was Held in Brasilia



The International Seminar on Consumer Safety and Health was held in Brasilia on September 3rd, in the framework of the Consumer Safety and Health Week organized by the Government of Brazil through the "Consumer Safety and Health Network - Brazil". The Network is integrated by the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA), the National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (INMETRO), the National Consumer's Secretariat (SENACON) and the Ministry of Health.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Brazilian Minister of Justice, José Eduardo Cardozo, who welcomed participants from all over Brazil and from 18 countries that participated in the Plenary of the CSHN.

[Additional Information](#)

### Chile advances in the safety of button cells

The National Consumer Service of Chile (SERNAC) released the third part of the Campaign on "The Hidden Danger of Button Batteries". This part focuses on incident statistics. The Campaign is part of the global and regional efforts that are being developed to create awareness of the hazards of button batteries for the consumer health, especially children.

[Additional Information](#)



Organization of  
American States

The Consumer Safety  
and Health Network  
(CSHN)

[www.oas.org/rcss](http://www.oas.org/rcss)



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