1st CONGRESS ON HEALTH AND DISASTERS.
La Habana, 2009

"Towards an effective disaster reduction and the improvement of people`s health"

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT
Dear colleague:

We are pleased in welcoming you to the 1st Congress on Health and Disasters which will be held in Cuba from October 12-16, 2009 at the Meliá Habana Hotel.

The purpose of this event of national character with foreign participation responds to the need of making a pause in our work to analyze the activity related to risk reduction and disaster management in order to incentivate the scientific development in this important topic and improve the impact on the economic and social life of our countries.

Within this scope, a group of Cuban and foreign professionals, experts and leaders of the health sector and other bodies and institutions shall exchange the positive experiences attained in health which have served as platform for the recognized results of the System of Measures of Cuban Civil Defense. We will share the accumulated knowledge in a space for the academic and scientific dialogue directed to contribute with new initiatives to the improvement of the future work in all the disaster reduction cycle in Cuba and also in the international medical cooperation sphere.

The celebration of this Event will constitute, without doubts, an opportunity for the professional, educational and scientific community that works for the reduction of disasters of natural, technological and sanitary origin, in favor of the health of the people of Cuba and the world.

Dr. Guillermo Mesa Ridel MPhil
President
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Republic of Cuba

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Head of the Weather Forecast Department
Institute of Meteorology

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General Secretary of Cuban Red Cross
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- Havana Medical University
- National School of Public Health (ENSAP)

SPONSOR INSTITUTIONS
- Latin American Center for Disaster Medicine " Dr Abelardo Ramírez Márquez ",
- Medical University of Havana
- National School of Public Health (ENSAP)
- Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP)
- National Advisory Council of Health Scientific Societies (CNSCS)
- National Staff of Civil Defence (EMNDC)
- Institute of Meteorology
- National Center of Toxicology (CENATOX)
- National Center of Seismological Research (CENAIS)
- The Cuban Red Cross
- Cuban Veterinary Medicine Society for situations of disasters.
- Cuban Society of Psychology of Health
- Cuban Society of Psychiatry
- National Union of Engineers and Architects of Cuba (UNAICC)
- Medical Center of the Civil Aviation of Cuba (CEMAC)
- Representation of the Pan-American Health Organization (OPS/OMS)
- The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- Board for Capacity Building in Disaster Risk Management for Central America (CG-PFCGR)
- Acknowledgement for the support of Atlantic Charitable Trust (ACT)
- and the collaboration of Medical Education Cooperation with Cuba (MEDICC)
Organizing Committee

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Dr. Guillermo Mesa Ridel, Mphil
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Latin American Center for Disaster Medicine “Dr. Abelardo Ramírez Márquez” (CLAMED)

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Technical Vice-Director
Latin American Center for Disaster Medicine “Dr. Abelardo Ramírez Márquez” (CLAMED)

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Lic. Mercedes Cabrera León
Tec. Miguel A. Ibáñez Pruna
OBJECTIVES
1) To update the good practices and the lessons learned in disaster risk management in the Public Health.
2) to present the best experiences related to health and disasters with a multidisciplinary, intersectorial and community approach and analyze its systematization for decision making.
3) To incentivate the scientific exchange among professionals, national and foreign experts on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery in disaster situations for the betterment of the health of the Cuban population and the countries comprised in the international medical cooperation.
4) To promote new alternatives for the cooperation concerning risk reduction and disaster management in the international field.

BASIC TOPICS
- Disaster information and knowledge management.
- Training and upgrading of human resources.
- Investigation and technological innovation in health for disaster reduction.
- Community work and disaster prevention.
- Safe health institutions: A necessity and a challenge.
- Diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation in disaster situations.
- Environmental health, Epidemilogic Surveillance and Control in disasters.
- Mental health in situations of disasters
- Veterinary Public health in disaster situations.
- The International Cooperation in health and disasters.
- Response and the recovery in emergencies and disasters.

PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS
This is a national event with the participation of foreign experts and shall have a multidisciplinary and multisectorial character, that is why it will group professionals of the Medical Sciences (Medicine, Dentistry, Nursery, Psychology and Health Technology) as well as other specialists related to the health sector and will count on a nourished representation of scientists, academics and specialists from the Civil defence, Meteorology, Seismology, Veterinary Medicine, Civil Engineers, Hydraulic Engineers, Firemen, Social Communicators, Medical Services of the Armed Forces, among others.
Pre-congress Courses shall be conducted on October 12-13, 2009.

a) Course: Mental Health in situations of emergencies and disasters.
   Coordinator: Prof. Dr. C. Alexis Lorenzo Ruiz.
   E-mail: alorengo@infomed.sld.cu
   40 participants

b) Course: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Training (EMDR)
   Coordinator: Prof. Priscilla Marquis. PhD.
   Email: psico@hha.sld.cu
   30 participants

c) Course: Disaster information management and social communication
   Coordinator: Lic. Yraida Rodríguez Luís.
   Email: iraida@clamed.sld.cu
   35 participants

d) Course: Safe Health Institutions
   Coordinator: Dra. Cristina Reyes Fernández.
   Email: cristy@clamed.sld.cu
   25 participants

e) Course: Legal Medicine and Disaster Situations
   Coordinator: Dr. Jorge González Peréz.
   Email: medlegal@infomed.sld.cu; dferrer@infomed.sld.cu
   30 participants

f) Course: Organization of emergency services for mass medical care in disaster situations.
   Coordinator: Dr. Roberto Rafael Sabina Martínez
   Email: rafael.sabina@infomed.sld.cu
   40 participants

g) Course: Basic Elements of human biometeorology.
   Coordinator: Dr. C Luís B. Lecha Estela
   E-mail: lecha@cesam.vcl.cu
   50 participants

h) Course: Disaster Risk Strategic Management.
   Coordinator: Dr. C. Fernando Guasch Hechevarríaç
   E-mail: guasch@cenais.cu
   Number of participants: Limited
Requirements for the submission of abstracts and papers:

The papers have to relate to the theme of the congress and shall not exceed 20 pages. They shall be sent in electronic format for their publication in the program and CD-ROM of the event. These publications shall be registered in the Book Chamber under the label of the Publishing House EDICIONES ICAIC (with its ISBN code). The paper might also be selected as original article or reprint to be published in MEDICC Review magazine.

The papers in order to be published shall be organized in the following way:

Abstract: Abstracts shall be submitted in a structured or non-structured form. The former shall not exceed 150 words and the latter may reach 250 words. Abstracts must contain the aims of the study, methods, results and conclusion. It must have 3 to 10 key words. We require the abstract of your proposed presentation as soon as possible and no later than April 30, 2009 and shall be sent to margarita@clamed.sld.cu

Paper:
It shall be sent to the above email before June 25, 2009 and shall contain an abstract, introduction, objectives, results, discussion, conclusions and recommendations. Each item shall be typed in uppercase letters in bold print.

Style and format:

Paper title: should be typed in 14-point Arial, justified alignment and bold print. The name of authors: name of authors, academic titles, teaching and scientific category, work center, telephone number, email address, city, country shall be typed in bold. The name of the speaker shall be underlined.

The document: font Arial 12 points, justified. Text margin 2.5 cm in sheets (8 1/2 x 11). The scientific commission shall inform the acceptance of the papers and the form of presentation at the congress after July 31, 2009.

Official language: Spanish

Registration fee: 200.00 CUC for foreigners
200.00 CUP for Cubans

It includes:
- Registration
- Event’s Documentation and materials
- Welcome Cocktail
- Coffee Break for October 14, 15, and 16
- Lunch for October 14, 15 and 16
- Cultural activity
Participants shall complete the following registration form:

Name: _____________________________________________________
Nationality: ___________________
Profession: _______________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________
Telephone home number: ______________________________
E-mail: _______________________________________
Institution: _________________________________________________
Position: _________________________________________
Bussiness address: _______________________________________
Telephone number:___________________ Fax: ______________________________
City: ___________________________________________
Country: ______________________

This form should be sent to:
Dr. María Cristina Reyes Fernández, Executive Secretary Organizing Committee
E-mail: cristy@clamed.sld.cu
Dr. Llunisis Gómez Miranda, International Relations Commission
E-mail: llunisis@clamed.sld.cu
Travel agency and Hotel reservation.

CUBATUR agency has prepared a tour package specially designed for foreign participants that includes:

- Daily lodging with breakfast included
- in-out transfer
- Transfer to the cultural activity
- Assistance in hotels and airport

**PRICES / CUC / DAILY / PERSON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Doble room x Person</th>
<th>Single room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meliá Habana (Venue)</td>
<td>5*****</td>
<td>65.00</td>
<td>98.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occidental Miramar</td>
<td>4****</td>
<td>52.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oasis Panorama</td>
<td>4****</td>
<td>45.00</td>
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<td>Monte Habana</td>
<td>3***</td>
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**Notice:** The official currency used in Cuba is the Cuban Convertible. The travel agency shall inform you about the rates of Exchange as soon as you arrive. You could exchange some currency in the airport at your arrival. The credit cards you can use are Visa, Master Card, Cabali and Visa electrónico.

**Professional Organizer:** Eng. Arlene Álvarez Rey  
Email: eventos1@cbtevent.cbt.tur.cu  
Tel: (537) 206-98 08/09  
Fax: (537) 206-98 07

**Copa Airlines:** the official airline of the event, offers all participants an special **discount** on public fare available when reserved at Copa sales offices in all 45 destinations in 24 countries of South, Central, Northamerica and Caribbean.

All participants must show a document from the organization committee of the event in order to get the discount offered by the airline.  
For more details, contact to: Aida E. Abreu.  
E-mail: aabreu@copaair.com  
TEL: (537) 204-1111, 204-7856  
Fax: (53)(7) 204-7853
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 12</th>
<th>Tuesday 13</th>
<th>Wednesday 14</th>
<th>Thursday 15</th>
<th>Friday 16</th>
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<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Precongress Courses (8:30 am - 1:00 pm)</td>
<td>10:00- 11:00 Opening ceremony</td>
<td>9:00-10:00 Master Lecture</td>
<td>9:00-10:00 Master Lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Course: Safe Health Institutions.</td>
<td>11:00-11:30 Master Lecture</td>
<td>10:00-11:45 CONCURRENT SESSION Environmental health, epidemiologic control and surveillance in disaster situations</td>
<td>10:00-11:45 CONCURRENT SESSION Community work, intersectorial work and disaster prevention</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Course: Mental health in disaster and emergency situations.</td>
<td>11:30-1:00 CONCURRENT SESSION Formation, training and upgrading of human resources</td>
<td>11:45-1:00 CONCURRENT SESSION Veterinary Public Health in disaster situations</td>
<td>11:45-1:00 SESSION The children and disaster reduction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Training (EMDR)</td>
<td>Course: Disaster Information Management and social Communication.</td>
<td>Course: Legal Medicine in disaster situations.</td>
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<td>Course: Disaster Risk Strategic Management</td>
<td>Course: Organization of emergency services for mass health care in disaster situations.</td>
<td>Course: Disaster Risk Strategic Management</td>
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<td>Booth mounting</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>National Symposia</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 CONCURRENT SESSION International cooperation in Health and Disasters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Booth Exposition</td>
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<td>- Architecture and engineering in Safe Health Institutions</td>
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<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>1:00 – 5:00 pm Registration</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 CONCURRENT SESSION Research and technological innovation in disasters</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 CONCURRENT SESSION Response and recovery in emergencies and disasters. Congress Sessions.</td>
<td>4:00-5:00 Closing Activity</td>
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<td>5:00-8:00 Welcome Cocktail</td>
<td>4:00-7:00 Cultural activity</td>
<td>5:00-8:00 Closing ceremony</td>
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