

JOINT DECLARATION

Colombia, Cuba and Mexico sign the Acapulco Declaration for the creation of the Regulatory Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices of Latin America and the Caribbean (AMLAC)

- This new agency will make it possible to achieve health self-sufficiency in the region and ensure access to safe, effective, and quality medicines.
- Other health agencies such as those of Argentina, Brazil and Chile will be invited to take part in this initiative.

Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico April 26, 2023 The National Regulatory Authorities of Regional Reference INVIMA, CECMED and COFEPRIS signed the "Acapulco Declaration" for the creation of the Latin America and Caribbean Medicines and Medical Devices Regulatory Agency (AMLAC). At this meeting, held within the framework of the II National Week against Sanitary Risks, the representatives of Colombia, Cuba and Mexico committed to work together to promote sanitary self-sufficiency in the region.

The "Acapulco Declaration" recognizes the challenges faced by Latin America and the Caribbean in the health, productive, economic and social spheres, especially in times of emergency such as the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. For this reason, the creation of AMLAC has been proposed as a mechanism to contribute to regional integration through harmonization and convergence in health regulation, in pursuit of access to safe, effective and quality medicines and medical devices.

In addition, the "Acapulco Declaration" invited the National Regulatory Authorities of Regional Reference of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to join this initiative, as well as the South Centre, an intergovernmental organization of developing countries to which Colombia and Cuba belong, to add their technical and political support on the international scene. It was also agreed to keep the Pro-Tempore Presidency of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (PPT-CELAC) duly informed about the process of establishing AMLAC, in order to promote a broad exchange of knowledge and receive contributions from interested member countries.



One of AMLAC's main strategies is to implement the sanitary self-sufficiency plan designed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which was announced during the Celac 2021 summit, through a solidarity alliance between Invima, Cecmed, COFEPRIS.

Meanwhile, it was established that the next face-to-face meetings will be held in May 2023 in Bogota - Colombia and in June 2023 in Havana - Cuba. The results of the work for the constitution of the agency will be presented to the rest of the CELAC members, under the coordination of the PPT.

The event was attended by Mariela Pardo Corredor, Director General of the National Institute for Drug and Food Surveillance (Invima); Olga Lidia Jacobo, Director of the Center for State Control of Drugs, Equipment and Medical Devices (Cecmed); Alejandro Svarch Pérez, head of the Federal Commission for Protection against Health Risks (COFEPRIS); Jorge Alcocer Varela, Mexico's Secretary of Federal Health; and Douglas Slater, National Coordinator of the Pro Tempore Presidency of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

Communications **INVIMA- CECMED-COFEPRIS**