



## Montevideo Commitment

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The participants in the Workshop "Promoting Change in Pharmaceutical Services in the Americas, From the New Conceptual Framework to Reality," held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on October 3, 2011, propose and endorse the following conclusions, which have been ratified by the General Assembly of the Pharmaceutical Forum of the Americas on October 5, 2011.

Pharmaceutical and health institutions in the Americas involved in defining professional actions and regulatory policies are urged to take the necessary actions for their implementation:

1. There is a need to create/strengthen National Technical Groups with the participation of professional associations, academia, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Ministry of Health, and other relevant partners for the design, implementation, and monitoring of a national strategy to improve the quality of Pharmaceutical Services based on Renewed Primary Health Care (PHC) and Good Pharmacy Practices (GPP).
2. It is necessary to define competencies within the framework of Renewed PHC, creating training opportunities that arise from these competencies and provide professionals with the tools to perform in a manner relevant to society.
3. It is proposed that the National Technical Group evaluate priorities among the identified problems and make proposals with a plan of possible solutions regarding the undergraduate curriculum.
4. There is a recognized need for substantial improvement in pharmaceutical services, aiming for the performance of a new role within the health system, with a focus on the patient, family, and community.
5. There is a need to work on developing leadership, communication, and professional competencies, as well as multi- and interdisciplinary work in the healthcare setting.
6. There is a need to define an exclusive strategy for Community Pharmacy that allows for integration into the Health System from all its perspectives.
7. A common need identified in the discussion groups is the updating of the legal framework governing the pharmaceutical profession in the country to recognize, actively promote, and ensure the pharmacist's participation in primary health care from a clinical perspective, promoting health, preventing disease, and ensuring the rational use of medications.