

Agenda



Opening Ceremony and Dinner (June 16 – evening)

Ministerial Session (June 17)

Opening Session: Overview presentation on Health and Environment and organization of work.

Session I: Balancing the HEMA Initiative

Purpose:

- Review the ecological, public health and economic rationale for HEMA.
- Recognize progress made since Ottawa and discuss on actions needed to strengthen cooperation.
- Address the sanitary, environmental and economic costs of inaction.

Expected outcomes: take stock of HEMA as a tool to improve environmental health in the region and as a contribution for global initiatives.

Session II: Setting Future Directions

Purpose:

- Establish three priority areas of work for next years.
- Address how HEMA goals can contribute to the achievement of MDGs.

Expected outcomes: agreement on the importance of implementing activities in priority areas and Identification of links between HEMA goals and MDGs.

Plenary Conference by Roberto Bertolini (WHO) on the European Conference on H & E

Session III: Strengthening Constituency

Purpose:

- Identify the HEMA catalytic role to support health and environment integration.
- Analyze the range of tools needed to support activities under the HEMA banner.
- Establish cooperation with other sectors.

Expected outcomes: promotion of HEMA as a tool for ensuring effective environment health consideration in decision making in the Americas; establishment and/or strengthening of bonds of cooperation with other areas such as Labour and Education.

Session IV: Envisaging HEMA Organisation

Purpose:

- Address core long term funding for HEMA and other operational issues.
- Consider the role for Civil Society in HEMA initiative.
- Establish the organization of regular HEMA workshops at both regional and sub regional level.

Expected outcomes: Implementation of HEMA in practical terms and endorsement of HEMA's future direction.

Session V: Agreements and Closing

Purpose:

- Review and agree on the documents that express the consensus reached.

Expected outcomes: HEMA Declaration and Action Plan with fixed priority actions for the immediate future and a proposal for Heads of State to be raised at the Summit of the Americas.

For more information, please visit the Argentinean Government web site at http://www.msal.gov.ar/ministros_americas/site/default_enter.asp or HEMA web site at <http://www.oas.org/hema>
