Recent events

WHO's Executive Board addresses violence and its prevention
During the 134th session of the WHO Executive Board, which took place from 20-25 January, governments discussed ways to increase the health sector’s efforts to address violence, with a particular focus on violence against women and children. Thirty-one Member States, some speaking on behalf of regional groupings such as the WHO African Region and the European Union, voiced strong support for the need for a resolution, including the Governments of Albania, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Namibia, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, the United States of America, Uruguay, and Zambia. Member States expressed their commitment to increase the health sector’s response to all forms of violence, and stressed the need to improve data collection and services for those affected, as well as to strengthen the focus on prevention and advocacy. Further consultations to finalize the draft resolution are currently being held, with a view to it being considered by the 67th World Health Assembly in May 2014. For further information, contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Expert group meets to develop European child maltreatment prevention action plan
An expert group met in Edinburgh, Scotland on 29-30 January to develop the European child maltreatment prevention action plan. There were a dozen experts in child and adolescent health present from several European countries including focal points for violence prevention and members of the WHO Violence Prevention Alliance. The group was convened to develop both the action plan to prevent child maltreatment and to revise the child and adolescent health strategy for Europe. The draft action plan and accompanying strategy will be presented to the Standing Committee of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe. A consultation with Member States will also be held. The policy documents are due for consideration by the WHO Regional Committee at its 64th session in September 2014. For further information, contact Dr Dinesh Sethi (din@euro.who.int).

Update on progress in development of the Global status report on violence prevention (GSRVP)
The GSRVP will for the first time evaluate the extent to which countries have been implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health, as called for in World Health Assembly Resolution 56.24, “Implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health”. Data for the GSRVP are being compiled by National Data Coordinators in each country using a questionnaire which asks about the existence of national action plans and
coordination mechanisms for violence prevention; data on the magnitude of violence; primary prevention responses such as policies, programmes, and laws; and the existence of services for victims of violence. To date, over 100 countries have completed data collection. It is anticipated that a further 20-30 countries will have completed the exercise by April 2014. A meeting on the main messages of the GSRVP will be held on 2-3 April at WHO HQ. The GSRVP will be launched towards the end of 2014. For further information, contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Upcoming events

**Society for Prevention Research 22nd Annual Meeting:**
*Comprehensive and Coordinated Prevention Systems: Building Partnerships and Transcending Boundaries*
from 27-30 May 2014 in Washington, DC, USA. For more information, see: [http://www.preventionresearch.org/](http://www.preventionresearch.org/)

**7th International Conference on Evidence-Based Policing on the theme of "Police-led experiments"**
from 7-9 July 2014 at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge, UK. For more information, see: [http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/events/conferences/ebp/2014/](http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/events/conferences/ebp/2014/)

**XXth ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect**
from 14-17 September 2014 in Nagoya, Japan. For more information, see: [http://www.ispcan.org/events/event_details.asp?id=315532](http://www.ispcan.org/events/event_details.asp?id=315532)

"**Global Strategies to Reduce Violence by 50% in the Next 30 Years**"
from 18-19 September 2014 at the University of Cambridge, organized by the University of Cambridge and WHO. Web-site available soon.

**2nd International Conference on Law Enforcement and Public Health**
from 5-8 October 2014 at the Free University in Amsterdam, Netherlands. For more information, see: [http://www.lephcon.com.au/](http://www.lephcon.com.au/)

**2014 Annual Meeting of the Violence Prevention Alliance**
from 14-15 October 2014 in Washington DC, USA. For more information, see: [http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/events/2014/annual_meeting/en/](http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/events/2014/annual_meeting/en/)

Publications

**Special Issue on "Examining the Role of Safe, Stable, and Nurturing Relationships in the Intergenerational Continuity of Child Maltreatment"**
This special issue of the *Journal of Adolescent Health* is the result of a collaboration between the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and researchers leading four important longitudinal studies in the UK and the USA on intergenerational patterns of violence. Papers investigate the role of safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and social contexts in the lives of children and their caregivers; provide insight into complex relationship factors that influence the intergenerational continuity of child maltreatment; and point to a number of important avenues to improve the lives of children and families by preventing violence and promoting health and well-being. Access the special issue at: [http://www.jahonline.org/issues?issue_key=S1054-](http://www.jahonline.org/issues?issue_key=S1054-)
National firearms control act saves 4,500 lives across five South African cities from 2001 to 2005
This paper assessed the effectiveness of South Africa's Firearm Control Act (FCA), passed in 2000, on firearm homicide rates compared with rates of non-firearm homicide across 5 South African cities from 2001 to 2005. It showed that there was a statistically significant decreasing trend regarding firearm homicides from 2001, with a decrease of 13.6% per annum. The year-on-year decrease in non-firearm homicide rates was also significant, but considerably lower. Results suggest that 4585 lives were saved across 5 cities from 2001 to 2005 because of the FCA. Access the paper at: http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2013.310650

Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica highlights violence against women
Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica has recently published an article submitted by PAHO and WHO colleagues on violence against women. The article highlights that throughout the world, women are more likely than men to suffer violence and injuries by people who are close to them, like husbands and boyfriends. In spite of the fact that violence against women is now included in many international agenda, the article calls on decision-makers in Latin America to give greater priority to this issue, due to the prevalence of this type of violence and its negative consequences concerning health, economy and human rights. For further information, contact Ms Alessandra Guedes (gueidesal@paho.org) or Dr Claudia Garcia Moreno (garciamorenoc@who.int). Access the article in Spanish at: http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9295%3Aviolence-against-women-foreign-affairs&catid=1505%3Aviolence&Itemid=1519&lang=en

Violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean is now available in Spanish
This report, produced by the PAHO, in collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, highlights that intimate partner and sexual violence against women is widespread in all Latin American and Caribbean countries where survey data are available. This is the first time that nationally-representative data have been analyzed and presented in a single comparative format that allows readers a snapshot of what is known about violence against women across many different countries in the Region. Access the publication at: www.paho.org/violence

Understanding and addressing violence against women is now available in Spanish
The information sheets in this series were jointly developed by the WHO and PAHO in order to summarize what is known about various aspects of violence against women with the aim of facilitating access to high quality data and promoting evidence-based policy and programmes. Some information sheets address specific forms of violence against women, while others address related health and social issues, such as HIV, intersections with child maltreatment, costs and consequences, and promising practices to address violence against women. Access the information sheets at: www.paho.org/violence

Calls for applications and proposals

Applications for MENTOR-VIP now open
WHO's global mentoring programme, MENTOR-VIP, is designed to assist
junior injury prevention practitioners to develop specific skills through structured collaboration with a more experienced person who has volunteered to act as a mentor. Since its inception in 2007, more than 50 mentorships on a range of violence and injury topics have been undertaken. MENTOR-VIP is an excellent opportunity for committed injury and violence prevention practitioners to improve their skills and benefit from the guidance of a more experienced mentor. Applicants who wish to apply to be mentored during 2014-2015, or individuals who would like to volunteer to be mentors, may find out more information about MENTOR-VIP by visiting: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/mentor_vip/. For further information, contact Dr David Meddings (meddingsd@who.int).

**Reminders:**

For a wealth of information on violence prevention, visit the WHO VIP Prevention of Violence web-site: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/en/


To download WHO Short Courses on Violence and Injury Prevention, visit: www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/courses/en/index.html

To access Violence Prevention: Evidence Base and Resources, visit: www.preventviolence.info/