

## TOP STORY



### **Public-private venture sees success in Chile Case study records win-win pricing situation in Chile**

Read how Chile's innovative public-private procurement program has reduced drug prices and lowered out-of-pocket expenditures by enabling private pharmacies to purchase medicines through the national procurement agency, CENABAST. Nearly 200 pharmacies have participated to date, and results include price drops of more than

20 percent, with the Mirena hormonal IUD falling by 50 percent in price. A ForoLAC-produced case study examines the legislation enabling CENABAST to act as an intermediary procurement agent for the program which generates profits for manufacturers (through increased procurement volumes) and cost savings for consumers. The [full report](#) in Spanish, a [summary in Spanish](#), and an [English-language summary](#) are all online now. A webinar in Spanish will take place on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11am EST. [Register here.](#)

[Download the summary](#)

## IN THE NEWS

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### **Columbia University to showcase work on period tax**

WASH United's [period tax website](#), developed with financial support from the RHSC, recently incorporated several key updates including new case studies on Namibia and Mexico, and a [Spanish-language](#) version of WASH United's groundbreaking [advocacy guide](#). The site's interactive map also shows that six countries have removed or reduced taxes on menstrual products in 2021. On 24 November, the RHSC and WASH United will host a [Spanish-language webinar](#) in which [Menstruación Digna México](#) will present how they campaigned successfully for the removal of the period tax in Mexico. Meanwhile, Columbia University has launched a free, [self-paced, e-learning course](#) on menstrual health and hygiene that incorporates WASH United's learnings on period tax.

### **Executive Committee seeks regional representatives**

The RHSC's governing body, the Executive Committee, is seeking applicants to fill two new regional seats, one from Anglophone Africa, the other from Asia. The Executive Committee already has two regional seats designated to bring the perspectives of partners

from Latin America and Francophone Africa. Please find more information [here](#).

Applications should be submitted in confidence to [regionalseats@rhsupplies.org](mailto:regionalseats@rhsupplies.org) on or before Friday 03 December 2021.

## Brief on menstrual product standards now in French

Last month, we reported on a new resource offering an at-a-glance overview of the current status of menstrual health supplies standards in low-and middle-income countries. The brief, Menstrual Product Standards, is now also [available in French](#), in addition to the [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

## NEW MEMBERS

[The Access to Medicines Platform](#) is a Kenya-based NGO that advocates to increase access to sexual and reproductive health supplies. It is a network of 50 community based civil society organizations from 15 counties.

## IN THE CALENDAR

[16th European Society of Contraception Congress](#)

**25-28 May 2022**

Ghent, Belgium

[International Conference on Family Planning 2022](#)

**14-17 November 2022**

Pattaya City, Thailand



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