### Announcing

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### Hemispheric IDNDR Meeting for the Americas

### 1-5 June, 1999, San José, Costa Rica

The International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) will end in December, 1999. As a prelude to the closing, the IDNDR Secretariat is planning the "Hemispheric IDNDR Meeting for the Americas: Towards a Reduction in the Impact of Disasters in the 21st Century". The meeting will be held in San José, Costa Rica, 1–5 June 1999 and will be hosted by the government of Costa Rica.

Throughout the 1990s Latin America and the Caribbean have engaged in many activities to promote risk reduction and disaster mitigation at national and regional levels. Achievements include: the development of vulnerability analysis methodologies, institutional strengthening in health, education and other sectors and the improvement of regional disaster management agencies. The end of the Decade will be an excellent opportunity to review the achievements of the last ten years and to set an agenda for the 21st century. The main issues of discussion will be: Exchanging experiences, Information and technology; Risk assessment; Prevention and mitigation programs in the context of development; Implementation of early warning systems; Local, national and regional policies.

For more information, please contact Helena Molin Valdes, email: hmolin@undpcos.nu.or.cr, fax: (506) 257-2139.

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### **ABSTRACTS**

All of the abstracts of papers from Volume 13, Number 1 on are available on the PDM webpage. These abstracts generally are posted on the webpage 2–3 weeks prior to mailing of the journals.

#### EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Please address all manuscripts and editorial inquiries and comments to: Marvin L. Birnbaum, Editor, *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*, E5/613 Clinical Sciences Center. 600 Highland, Madison. WI 53792 USA: (01)608-263-9641 or (01)608-263-7094; FAX: (01)608-265-3037. See *Instruction to Authors* included in this issue. Papers accepted for publication generally will be published within six months of receipt of the revised manuscript.

#### ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

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