



## XXII PAN AMERICAN SANITARY CONFERENCE

## XXXVIII REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

WASHINGTON, D.C.

SEPTEMBER 1986

Provisional Agenda Item 5.3

CSP22/22 (Eng.)

28 July 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONTRIBUTION OF THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS TO THE EIGHTH GENERAL PROGRAM OF WORK OF WHO, 1990-1995

The Eighth General Program of Work of WHO covers the years 1990-1995, inclusive. The contribution of the Region of the Americas to the preparation of the draft Eighth General Program of Work must be considered by the XXII Pan American Sanitary Conference (Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas) prior to its submission to WHO. Both the Executive Board (January 1987) and the World Health Assembly (May 1987) will consider and take action on the draft Eighth General Program of Work prepared by WHO based on regional submissions and global planning.

The present document incorporates the issues that arose in the discussions at the 97th Meeting of the Executive Committee. The results of the Seventh General Program of Work have been taken into account in the formulation of the draft Eighth General Program, and the ultimate intention is that the programs described in the regional contribution to the Eighth General Program will be conducted taking into consideration the evaluation of the set of priorities established for PAHO for the quadrennium 1987-1990 (see agenda item 5.1, Orientation and Program Priorities for PAHO for the Quadrennium 1987-1990).

It is also important to note that Annex II, prepared since the 97th Meeting of the Executive Committee, has been added to the document. This Annex summarizes the contents of the regional contribution to the Eighth General Program of Work for the 15 programs included in the classified list.

CONTRIBUTION OF THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS TO THE  
EIGHTH GENERAL PROGRAM OF WORK OF WHO, 1990-1995

The Constitution of the World Health Organization (Article 28g) requires its Executive Board to submit to the World Health Assembly for consideration and approval a general program of work covering a specific six-year period.

The WHO is now operating under the Seventh General Program of Work which covers the years 1984-1989 inclusive. This is the first of three general programs to be implemented during the execution of the Global Strategy of Health for All by the Year 2000. The Seventh General Program of Work was approved in May, 1983, its preparation having begun in 1980.

The Eighth General Program of Work covers the years 1990-1995 inclusive. The PAHO/WHO contribution to the Eighth General Program of Work must be approved by the Pan American Sanitary Conference prior to its submission to the WHO Executive Board in January 1987 and the World Health Assembly in May 1987.

Following the approval of the General Program of Work, Medium-Term Programs, covering the same time period, must be prepared to guide its implementation. The Medium-Term Programs will be reviewed by the WHO Headquarters Program Committee in July 1987, which coincides with the beginning of preparation for the 1990-1991 program budget.

The Director General of WHO is responsible for the preparation of the draft Eighth General Program of Work. On the basis of the Classified List of Programs (see Annex I), each Regional Office is to prepare a description of the programs planned for the 1990-1995 time frame.

The Seventh General Program of Work constituted the reference point for the PAHO/WHO Medium-Term Programs for 1984-1989, for the PAHO/WHO biennial program budgets for 1984-1985 and 1986-1987 and for the preparation of the Biennial Program Budget for 1988-1989 which is underway. In accordance with the Regional Program Budget Policy, the biennial program budgets are prepared through the joint country/PAHO consultations on national needs and resources.

The draft Eighth General Program of Work is based on the latest evaluation of progress made in implementing the strategy of HFA/2000 submitted to WHO in 1985, and a joint analysis of the current priorities of Member Countries. It takes into account other national and subregional planning documents and current program budget efforts to extrapolate the needs and direction of PAHO/WHO efforts during the period 1990-1995. The final revision of the PAHO/WHO contribution to the Eighth General Program of Work will take place in light of the countries' needs as defined in their priorities for the 1988-1989 biennial program budget,

their perspective of future needs, and their assessment of the priority areas for the optimal utilization of PAHO/WHO's technical cooperation. Although the PAHO/WHO contribution to the Eighth General Program of Work is a forward-looking document designed to anticipate future problems, it is based on current realities and the joint evaluation of the dominant obstacles to the achievement of national, regional and global health goals.

The draft Eighth General Program will ultimately be structured so as to reflect the results of the Seventh General Program and specifically the evaluation of the regional policy decisions as set forth in the document, "Orientation and Program Priorities for PAHO during the Quadrennium 1987-1990," presented to the Conference (Document CSP22/6). For the present, however, PAHO is responding to the mandate from WHO to describe, for each program in the classified list, the current status, general objectives, specific targets and approaches to be applied in pursuing those targets.

A summary of the objectives of the PAHO/WHO contribution to the Eighth General Program of Work is attached as Annex II.

Annexes

Seventy-seventh Session of the Executive Board of WHO  
Document EB77/18

CLASSIFIED LIST OF PROGRAMMES FOR THE  
EIGHTH GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

(Changes by comparison with the current list under the Seventh General Programme of Work are shown by an asterisk)

A. DIRECTION, COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

1. Governing bodies

- 1.1 World Health Assembly
- 1.2 Executive Board
- 1.3 Regional committees

2. WHO's General Programme Development and Management

- 2.1 Executive management<sup>1</sup>
- 2.2 Director-General's and Regional Directors' Development Programme
- 2.3 General programme development<sup>2</sup>
- 2.4 External coordination for health and social development<sup>3</sup>
- 2.5 Informatics\*

B. HEALTH SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

3. Health system development

- 3.1 Health situation and trend assessment
- 3.2 Managerial process for national health development
- 3.3 Health systems research and development\*
- 3.4 Health legislation

4. Organization of health systems based on primary health care

5. Health manpower

6. Public information and education for health

C. HEALTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

7. Research promotion and development, including research on health-promoting behaviour

8. General health protection and promotion

- 8.1 Nutrition
- 8.2 Oral health
- 8.3 Accident prevention
- 8.4 Smoking and health\*

<sup>1</sup> Includes Director-General's Office, Regional Directors' offices, offices of Assistant Directors-General with Headquarters Programme Committee Secretariat, offices of the Legal Counsel and Internal Audit and Managerial support to policies and strategies for Health for All by the Year 2000.\*

<sup>2</sup> Includes Directors of Programme Management in regional offices, the Managerial Process for WHO's Programme Development, and Staff Development and Training.\*

<sup>3</sup> Includes collaboration within the United Nations system, with other organizations and with multilateral and bilateral programmes, and emergency relief operations.

9. Protection and promotion of the health of specific population groups

- 9.1 Maternal and child health, including family planning
- 9.2 Human reproduction research
- 9.3 Workers' health
- 9.4 Health of the elderly

10. Protection and promotion of mental health

- 10.1 Psychosocial factors in the promotion of health and human development
- 10.2 Prevention and control of alcohol and drug abuse
- 10.3 Prevention and treatment of mental and neurological disorders

11. Promotion of environmental health

- 11.1 Community water supply and sanitation
- 11.2 Environmental health in rural and urban development and housing
- 11.3 Control of environmental health hazards
- 11.4 Food safety

12. Diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitative technology

- 12.1 Clinical, laboratory and radiological technology for health systems based on primary health care
- 12.2 Essential drugs and vaccines
- 12.3 Drug and vaccine quality, safety and efficacy
- 12.4 Traditional medicine
- 12.5 Rehabilitation

13. Disease prevention and control

- 13.1 Immunization
- 13.2 Disease vector control
- 13.3 Malaria
- 13.4 Parasitic diseases
- 13.5 Tropical disease research
- 13.6 Diarrhoeal diseases
- 13.7 Acute respiratory infections
- 13.8 Tuberculosis
- 13.9 Leprosy
- 13.10 Zoonoses
- 13.11 Sexually transmitted diseases
- 13.12 Vaccine research and development\*
- 13.13 Other communicable disease prevention and control activities<sup>1</sup>
- 13.14 Blindness and deafness\*
- 13.15 Cancer
- 13.16 Cardiovascular diseases
- 13.17 Other noncommunicable disease prevention and control activities

---

<sup>1</sup> Including Smallpox Post-Eradication Surveillance.\*

D. PROGRAMME SUPPORT

14. Health information support<sup>1</sup>

15. Support services

- 15.1 Personnel
- 15.2 General administration and services
- 15.3 Budget and finance
- 15.4 Equipment and supplies for Member States

---

<sup>1</sup> Health information support includes WHO's publications and documents and health literature services.

CSP22/22 (Eng.)  
ANNEX II

SUMMARY OF THE REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE AMERICAS  
TO THE EIGHTH GENERAL PROGRAM OF WORK

SUMMARY OF THE REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE AMERICAS  
TO THE EIGHTH GENERAL PROGRAM OF WORK

A. DIRECTION, COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

1. Governing Bodies

Among World Health Organization Governing Bodies, only one uniquely relates to the governance of the programs of the Region of the Americas--the Regional Committee.

The Regional Committee and the Member Countries which comprise the Region of the Americas have adopted the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000 (HFA/2000).

In pursuit of that goal, they have approved the Global and Regional Strategies for the achievement of HFA/2000, the Global and Regional Plans of Action for the Implementation of the Strategies, the Seventh General Program of Work, the goals of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the Five-Year Plan of Action for Women, Health and Development, and the goal of providing immunization services to all children of the Region by 1990.

As part of the "Regional Committee" subprogram for the period 1990-1995, AMRO will continue to provide the technical, administrative and financial support necessary for the scheduled meetings of the AMRO Governing Bodies.

2. General Program Development and Management

2.1 Executive Management

A Managerial Strategy for the Optimum Use of PAHO's Resources has been prepared to provide a clear guide to the Secretariat in fulfilling its constitutional obligations and to insure that AMRO/PAHO resources are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner to achieve the goal of improving health conditions in the Americas.

The Management Strategy has been crafted with an awareness of the unique nature of the Western Hemisphere within the international community. AMRO/PAHO Member Countries encompass the most developed as well as those with vast unmet needs in every aspect of development. The present moment is one in which complex forces interact to yield new uncertainties for regional economic, social



and political development. All nations in the Region today, in differing ways, stand at a crossroads where the decisions they make will shape events throughout the remaining years of this century. The health sector, now more than ever, is intimately and inextricably entwined in those decisions, affecting them and affected by them.

## 2.2 Regional Director's Development Program

The purpose of the Regional Director's Development Program is to assure the necessary flexibility to permit AMRO/PAHO to respond to new requirements produced by changing conditions and events during the Eighth General Program of Work.

## 2.3 General Program Development

The General Program Development objective is to provide program coherence within AMRO/PAHO through policy analysis that relates ongoing activities to the policy goals and strategies set forth in the resolutions of the PAHO and WHO Governing Bodies. In this analytic process, new and alternative courses of action are recommended to address the policy needs of the Organization. Staff support will be provided to the Director on major ongoing and prospective policy issues.

## 2.4 External Coordination for Health and Social Development

This program includes components that have been tested and applied progressively in the Region of the Americas to improve coordination and external financing, such as:

- Coordinating international cooperation through strengthening relations with external organizations which may be in a position to support the approved health goals of the Region;
- Cooperating with Member Countries to attract external financing for support of regional and country objectives;
- Encouraging TCDC;
- Encouraging and coordinating the identification of needs shared by groups of countries and the preparation of subregional projects.

Consistent with the Regional Plan of Action, special efforts have been made to develop a financial mobilization strategy which places major negotiation responsibility at the level of each Member Country. AMRO/PAHO efforts are directed at identifying external sources, preparing country and regional proposals for external funding, and providing training and orientation to

increase the capability of national health authorities to develop projects and attract external funding. Specific examples are the efforts to mobilize funds for Central America and the Caribbean.

The past quadrennium has been marked by a growing trend toward a more systematic utilization of TCDC as an effective tool for mobilizing technical resources and putting them to use in the Region.

The work of AMRO/PAHO will concentrate on accomplishing the Regional Objectives by the year 2000 as outlined in the Regional Plan of Action to which all Member Countries have given their concurrence.

Among the essential conditions for achievement of regional goals are political commitment and sufficient financial support. In this context, the Eighth General Program of Work for AMRO/PAHO is built on the efforts of the preceding GPW by including components which have already been tested and applied progressively in the Region of the Americas to improve coordination and external financing.

#### 2.5 Managerial Support to Policies and Strategies for Health for All by the Year 2000, Including Social and Economic Components

(Recently approved in the WHO Executive Board meeting. PAHO program statements will be developed later. New activities are being developed to reinforce technical cooperation, including the analysis of social and economic components related to the health sector.)

In this program, intersectoral action for health, health leadership and economic strategies to attain the goals of HFA/2000 will be emphasized as major components of the managerial support to policies and strategies.

#### 2.6 Information Management

As the Eighth General Program of Work is undertaken, the principal thrust is for further integration of the information stored on various computer systems at Headquarters and in the field.

One of the critical activities spanning the work of PAHO/WHO is improvement of its management information systems. Improvements will focus on the timeliness and quality of data and reports. Programs to identify and transfer information processing innovations and share computing resources among Member Countries and between components of the Organization, including country offices and the Pan American centers, are also underway. Management surveys will be prepared and management advisers and assistance provided to the AMRO/PAHO Management Review Program. Computer science services will continue to support both the administrative and technical work of the Organization and the Member Countries.

B. HEALTH SYSTEMS INFRASTRUCTURE

3. Health Systems Development

3.1 Health Situation and Trend Assessment

The general objective will be to promote in the countries and within AMRO the development of analytical capabilities for a better understanding of the health situation, its determinants and its trends.

The specific objectives will be to cooperate with countries in:

- Improving their analytical capability for assessing the health status of the population, its determinants and trends to define priorities and strategies of intervention;
- Improving their analytical capability for evaluating the impact of health care services and of interventions on the environment and on individual and collective behavior so that they may be readjusted and refocused;
- Improving their capability to capture, generate, and use information for better understanding of the occurrence, distribution and determinants of health problems to achieve more timely, effective, and efficient promotion, prevention, and control interventions.

Simultaneously the program will strengthen the Secretariat's capability for:

- Generating knowledge on the health situation and its determinants in the Region's countries as a basis for the delivery of technical cooperation;
- Providing consultation to other AMRO Units on the capture and analysis of information on specific problems.

3.2 Managerial Process for National Health Development (to be submitted)

3.3 Health Systems Research

The overall objective is to strengthen the actual capacity of the countries of the Region for conducting health systems research as a means to facilitate the achievement of national and regional goals of HFA/2000.

The specific objectives are:

- To cooperate with the countries of the Region in developing their health systems research potential in relation to their needs, capabilities and resources;

- To foster and support scientific cooperation in health development, within and between countries;
- To contribute to the improvement of knowledge on health needs and demands and the permanent evaluation of changes in the health status of the population;
- To contribute to the analysis and further development of health policies;
- To contribute to the study of shortcomings in the organization and delivery of health services to the population with an aim towards finding and implementing viable solutions;
- To provide objective criteria for health manpower policies, planning, and decision-making in the development of human resources, based on studies of the dynamics of the work force supply and demand, the analysis of the composition of the work force, the analysis of training and utilization trends and the development of information systems on health personnel.

3.4 Health Legislation (to be submitted)

3.5 Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief Coordination Program

a) Natural and technological disasters:

The medium- and long-term objectives of the program are:

- To promote and support the establishment of a technical unit in the program of the office of the health sector responsible for ongoing predisaster planning and training and management of emergency situations;
- To promote the development of human resources in the health sector;
- To stimulate cooperation between the Ministry of Health, other health institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the civil defense or similar institutions responsible for overall disaster coordination.

b) Health Activities for Refugees/Displaced Populations

The general objective is to contribute to the improvement of the delivery of primary health care provided to refugees/displaced populations and the surrounding local communities, and to facilitate its progressive integration into the national health systems.

4. Organization of Health Systems Based on Primary Health Care

a) Development of Health Policies

The general objective of this component of the program is to cooperate with the Member Countries of the Region of the Americas in the analysis, formulation, implementation and evaluation of their health policies, in the context of the search for HFA/2000 and of the relationships between health and the process of socioeconomic and political development. Particular emphasis will be made on:

- Identification and analysis of the forces that influence the formulation of health policies at the country level and their impact on the sectoral political process;
- Development and strengthening of the processes of planning, programming, and evaluation of health policies in the countries;
- Analysis of the implications of the economic situation for the health situation and the characteristics of the sectoral economic dynamics;
- Analysis of the roles of the State and of the society in the institutional organization of the health sector and general legislation of the sector;
- Strengthening of the capacity of the countries in terms of negotiation, transfer and technological development in health;
- Formulation and development of pharmaceutical policies with emphasis on essential drugs, including technological aspects and use.

b) Development of Health Services

The general objective of this component of the program is to cooperate with PAHO's Member Countries in the appropriate organization and effective operation of health services within the strategy of primary care so as to reach levels of coverage and quality congruent with reaching the goal of HFA-2000.

Within this overall objective, the following program emphasis will be pursued:

- Developing approaches to increase the effectiveness by which health sector policies are translated into concrete actions to improve the distribution and efficiency of health services to the population;

- Promoting mechanisms for more effective intrasectoral coordination, especially among health ministries, social security institutions, and the private subsector so as to increase the impact of existing resources on the availability of appropriate services that will permit the execution of integrated health programs for vulnerable groups;
- Increasing the decentralization of health systems in order to promote a more efficacious response to local health needs and an effective community participation;
- Developing improved information systems to facilitate local and national planning, development implementation and evaluation of health services;
- Promoting health services research related to equity, efficiency, and effectiveness of coverage and to quality of health care;
- Fostering interdisciplinary approaches to health services delivery in order to increase the efficient use of all categories of health manpower.

#### 5. Health Manpower

The general objective of this program remains the same as in the Seventh General Program of Work.

The major targets can be summarized as follows:

- Countries will have health manpower policies as an integrated part of their global health policy, within an intersectoral context, as basis for health manpower planning. The majority of countries will have developed the actions needed to elaborate, execute, and evaluate health manpower plans in their qualitative and quantitative aspects, insuring optimal utilization and development of personnel.
- Countries will have or share educational institutions that are responsible for the development, maintenance, and advancement of the competence of health personnel and their teachers, as required by national health strategies. The majority of countries will develop educational processes and programs using adequate technology and instructional materials in all priority areas and in accordance with their national policies for health manpower.

6. Public Information and Education for Health

6.1 Public Information

The general objective is to provide information on the programs and activities of the Organization on a regional basis as well as to support Member Countries in developing strategies, programs, instruments and procedures to effectively disseminate factual, up-to-date and accurate information in support of their primary health care objectives, with particular emphasis on health promotion and education.

6.2 Community Health Education

The general objective is to encourage and assist Member Countries in the development of public information, health promotion and education, community participation, institutional capabilities and activities which motivate and enable individuals, families and communities to take appropriate action to protect their health, prevent disease, make optimal use of existing health services, and take an active part in planning and developing improved community health conditions.

C. HEALTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

7. Research Promotion and Development, including Research on Health - Promoting Behavior

The main approach of the AMRO/PAHO Research Promotion and Development Program is to promote:

- The formulation of national science and technology research policies in health, with the participation of all sectors concerned with human development and well being, as part of health policies and of the national policy for science and technology development in general;
- The definition of research priorities, with the participation of the scientific community, as an important component of national health priorities;
- Improvement in the processes by which national resource allocation decisions are made for research in general, and for science and technology research in health in particular;
- Institutional development for research in health, including research management;

- Strengthening of the data base for science and technology research in health; and
- Development and utilization of human resources in science and technology research in health.

## 8. General Health Protection and Promotion

This program comprises four components, namely: nutrition, oral health, accident prevention, and smoking and health.

### 8.1 Nutrition

AMRO performs a role of support to the Member Countries through the health sector, and in collaboration with others sectors, in the promotion, coordination, and implementation of efforts to achieve an adequate status of food and nutrition in the population of the hemisphere. Within this mission, the Regional Food and Nutrition Program has the following objectives:

- To collaborate with the Member Governments in the identification, adaptation, development, application, and evaluation of appropriate methods for the promotion, achievement, and maintenance of an optimum nutritional status in the entire population;
- To promote and support measures aimed at improving the availability, consumption, and utilization of food, as well as to reinforce proper food habits, especially in vulnerable groups (e.g., women of reproductive age, pregnant women and nursing mothers, children, population living in critical poverty, groups undergoing a process of transculturation);
- To promote and give technical support to programs aimed at significantly reducing protein-energy malnutrition, specific nutritional deficiencies, and malnutrition caused by relative excesses or imbalances in food consumption;
- To support measures to strengthen the institutional feeding services so as to implement optimum treatment and rehabilitation for patients with serious malnutrition or who are clearly at risk of developing such a state, with other nutritional diseases, and with processes that require dietary attention;
- To provide technical and administrative support to the countries for the development of their national capacity to deal with their nutritional and food problems.



## 8.2 Oral Health

The main objective of the Regional Dental Health Program is to reduce the prevalence of the common oral diseases, namely, caries and periodontal diseases in the population, and to promote the development in each country of national programs of oral health, where preventive and curative programs are integrated within health services programs.

## 8.3 Accident Prevention

The objective of the accident prevention program is to reduce the number of accidents in the Region through the control of the most important causative factors. In addition to vehicular accident prevention, the program includes the reduction and prevention of accidents in the home and other settings. Among the sub-objectives of the program is the protection of high risk groups such as children and adolescents.

## 8.4 Smoking and Health

The program's main objective is to promote the prevention and control of tobacco use and its related diseases within the Region.

## 9. Protection and Promotion of the Health of Specific Population Groups

This program comprises four components: maternal and child health, including family planning; human reproduction research; worker's health; and health of the elderly.

### 9.1 Maternal and Child Health, Including Family Planning

The purpose of the activities under this program is to cooperate with Member Governments in improving maternal and child health by promoting a response to the biological and psychosocial needs of human growth, development and reproduction, in close association with the efforts aimed at the development of health services infrastructure.

The general objectives are to cooperate with the countries in:

- To strengthen and extend the coverage of their programs for health care during pregnancy, delivery, childhood and adolescence, including family planning, with emphasis on neglected groups;
- To develop, evaluate and use appropriate technologies for meeting the health needs of the maternal and child group in the Region, with emphasis on those that can be used at the levels of low degree of complexity;
- To provide appropriate training in maternal and child health and family planning for all health personnel and that of related sectors, particularly teachers and social workers;

- To promote the participation of the family and community in decisions and actions concerning their health;
- To make available oral rehydration salts, vaccines, essential medicines, contraceptives and other basic maternal and child care technologies;
- To foster intersectoral coordination and participation for the promotion of health and the solution of priority problems.

## 9.2 Research in Human Reproduction

Jointly with the Special Program of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction and activities supported by AMRO/PAHO, the following objectives will be pursued:

- To support the development of new and improved methods of fertility regulation, including studies on the safety and efficacy of existing and newly developed methods;
- To support studies on the behavioral and social determinants of fertility regulation and health services research.

## 9.3 Workers' Health

The objectives of this component are:

- To protect and promote the health of the working population through national and international measures directed at the worker, his working environment and the community in which he lives, through the identification, evaluation and control of conditions and factors adverse to health, and the promotion of those favorable to it;
- To develop the health of workers by enlisting the participation and cooperation of the workers themselves, employers, government sectors, and concerned institutions and associations as a basic line of action to ensure the attainment of Health for All by the Year 2000.

## 9.4 Health of the Elderly

The objective of this component is to promote the independence of the elderly to the maximum extent in the Member Countries, avoiding institutionalization as far as possible. Important factors contributing to this objective are: participation by the family and community; day care for the otherwise fit elderly; help with housework; and the principles of caring for themselves that are taught to the elderly.

10. Protection and Promotion of Mental Health

The global objective of this program is to cooperate with Member Countries in the establishment of national and provincial mental health programs aimed at the prevention and control of problems associated with altered mental health and to introduce mental health knowledge and skills as a basic element of the general health programs.

The specific objectives for each of the three components of the program are listed in the following paragraphs.

10.1 Psychosocial Factors in the Promotion of Human Health and Development

The objective is to cooperate with the countries in the introduction of the psychosocial approach in their general programs of health.

10.2 Prevention and Control of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

The objective is to prevent and control the problems associated with the abuse of alcohol and other substances liable to produce dependence.

10.3 Prevention and Treatment of Mental and Neurologic Disorders

The objective is to cooperate with the countries in the development of national programs for the care and prevention of mental and neurological disorders and for the rehabilitation of the mentally ill, based in the community, assuring universal coverage.

11. Promotion of Environmental Health

11.1 Community Water Supply and Sanitation

The objective of this component of the program is to strengthen and extend drinking water supply and excreta and sewage disposal services so as to attain and maintain service coverage and quality levels in line with the objectives of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade and HFA/2000.

11.2 Environmental Health in Rural and Urban Development and Housing

The objectives of this component are:

- To extend the coverage and improve the sanitary management and disposal of urban and rural household solid wastes, and achieve safe final disposal of toxic and special solid wastes;
- To improve the sanitary conditions in housing and urban and rural human settlements, particularly in aspects in which the benefits to health are greatest and where contributions can be made to improve the living conditions of the lower-income families.

11.3 Health Risk Assessment of Potentially Toxic Chemicals

(Recently approved in the WHO Executive Board meeting. PAHO program statements will be developed later.)

11.4 Control of Environmental Health Hazards

- The objective of this component is to protect human health from the adverse effects of both biological and chemical pollution of the environment, environmental changes resulting from development projects, and other environmental hazards.

11.5 Food Safety

- The objective of this program is to provide technical and scientific cooperation to all Member Countries of the Region in ensuring the safety of food supplies as an essential element of primary health care, with the goal of preventing human illness and death caused by consumption of foods that have been contaminated by chemical and biological agents, reducing food wastage and economic losses, minimizing adulteration and fraud, promoting improved production and processing techniques and the proper use of additives in the food industry, stimulating regional and international food trade, and preventing the dumping of substandard foods.

12. Diagnostic, Therapeutic and Rehabilitative Technology

12.1 Clinical, Laboratory and Radiological Technology for Health Systems Based on Primary Health Care

a) Health Laboratory Services

The main objective of this component of the program is to promote the establishment of national laboratory systems able to provide supportive services to the health programs in medical care, epidemiological surveillance and environmental control.

Other objectives include: To keep the countries updated on technologies appropriate to their problems; strengthen the central laboratories and to expand their programs to the peripheral units; provide diagnostic reference reagents, reference microbiological strains, and other materials for the standardization of methods and procedures; train, develop and utilize human resources in laboratory technology at the scientific, technical, intermediate and auxiliary levels; and promote research programs applied to a better knowledge of regional pathology and the adoption of new technology.

b) Radiological Technology and Radiation Protection

The main objective is to contribute to improvement of health through extension and strengthening of radiologic services, according to the needs and within the framework of the health services systems of Member Countries.

In radiologic diagnosis, the sub-objective is to collaborate in the extension and integration of radiologic diagnostic services (x-ray, nuclear medicine, ultrasound) within the overall objective for the extension of health services coverage.

In radiation therapy, the sub-objective is to extend these services to underserved populations, and to collaborate in the integration of radiation therapy services in national cancer control programs.

In radiation protection the sub-objective is to collaborate in efforts to establish and/or extend national radiation protection services.

12.2 Essential Drugs and Vaccines (also includes program 12.3, Drug and Vaccine Quality, Safety and Efficiency)

a) Drugs

The objective is to support the Member Countries in the formulation of policies and in the development of programs aimed at ensuring the marketing of drugs of recognized effectiveness and safety and the availability of essential drugs of good quality at reasonable cost for all the sectors of the population, with emphasis on primary care.

b) Biologicals and Hemotherapy Services

The objectives of this component are:

- To collaborate with the countries of the Region in developing laboratories for the production and control of biologicals in order to contribute to national development and self-sufficiency;
- To control the quality of EPI vaccines acquired through AMRO/PAHO's Revolving Fund in order to ensure the use of safe and effective products prepared by suitable suppliers;
- To provide technical support for the development of national blood transfusion programs.

12.4 Traditional Medicine

(There is no AMRO/PAHO program proposed for traditional medicine.)

## 12.5 Rehabilitation

The principal objective of the Regional Program for Health and Rehabilitation of the Disabled is to support the Member Countries in the formulation of policies and the development of programs aimed at promoting knowledge and understanding of the problems of disability and impairment, the prevention thereof, and the treatment of larger numbers of disabled.

The AMRO/PAHO rehabilitation program will therefore promote actions that focus especially on:

- Promoting the integration of prevention of and rehabilitation from disabilities in the system of general health services within the framework of primary health care;
- Promoting the mechanisms for participation by the individual, the family and the community in the prevention and rehabilitation process;
- Encouraging the development of training programs for intra- and extrasectoral human resources.

## 13. Disease Prevention and Control

### 13.1 Immunization

The long-term objectives of the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) are:

- To reduce morbidity and mortality from diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, tuberculosis and poliomyelitis by providing immunization services against these diseases for every child in the world by 1990 (other selected diseases may be included when and where applicable);
- To promote countries' self-reliance in the delivery of immunization services within the context of comprehensive health services;
- To promote regional self-reliance in matters of vaccine production and quality control.

In September 1985, the Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization set the goal of totally interrupting the indigenous transmission of wild poliovirus, thereby eradicating poliomyelitis from the Americas by 1990.

The eradication of poliomyelitis from the Americas will promote the development of the EPI in the Region through improvements in surveillance and supervision systems, vaccine delivery systems and laboratory services. It is also expected that training programs will result in improved health staff performance. In particular, the interruption of transmission of wild poliovirus will assure that no child residing in the Americas will suffer from paralytic polio due to the wild virus. In the effort to eradicate poliomyelitis through immunization, the EPI will also deliver DPT and measles vaccines to children as well as tetanus toxoid vaccine to women of childbearing age for the prevention of neonatal tetanus. Hence, the eradication of poliomyelitis will be an instrument by which sustainable immunization programs may be achieved while contributing directly to improved child survival.

### 13.2 Disease Vector Control

The objective is to cooperate with all countries of the Region in developing an acceptable strategy or strategies to prevent and control vector-borne diseases through the reduction of vector distribution to a level where transmission is no longer a major socioeconomic concern.

### 13.3 Malaria

The objective is to provide technical cooperation to the countries of the Region in organizing relevant activities for the prevention and control of malaria, and its eradication where it is feasible to achieve it and where it represents a public health problem which jeopardizes social and economic development.

### 13.4 Parasitic Diseases

The objective is to reduce the transmission of parasitic diseases identified as priorities in the Region: leishmaniasis, Chagas' disease, schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis and other filariases, and intestinal parasitic infections.

### 13.5 Tropical Diseases Research

The objective is to cooperate with Member Countries in developing and strengthening the national capabilities required for the development and assessment of tools and methodologies for the prevention, control, treatment and diagnosis of those tropical diseases with major impact on the public health of the population in the Americas.

### 13.6 Diarrheal Diseases

The medium- and long-term objectives of these components are:

- To reduce mortality from acute diarrheal diseases;

- To reduce morbidity from acute diarrheal diseases and their associated ill-effects, particularly malnutrition, especially in infants and young children;
- To promote national self-reliance in the delivery of health and other social services for the control of diarrheal diseases.

### 13.7 Acute Respiratory Infections

The short-term objective of this component of the program is to reduce the mortality from acute respiratory infections in children through effective diagnostic and treatment facilities at the primary health care level.

The long-term objective is to reduce morbidity due to respiratory diseases.

### 13.8 Tuberculosis

The short-term objective is to reduce suffering, disability and death through improved organization of diagnosis, treatment and BCG vaccination, delivered by general health services.

The long-term objective is to eliminate tuberculosis as a public health problem by gradual reduction of transmission, through detection and treatment of sources of infection.

### 13.9 Leprosy

The objective is to cooperate with all countries of the Region in implementing leprosy control activities within the general health services and the primary health care system, to reduce the incidence and prevalence to low rates so that the disease does not represent a public health problem.

### 13.10 Zoonoses

The objective is to provide technical and scientific cooperation to all Member Countries of the Region in the control and eradication of animal diseases transmissible to man (zoonoses) and related food-borne diseases of animal origin through the application of veterinary public health methods, aimed at reducing human suffering and deaths from these diseases and at promoting social and economic well-being through better animal health and productivity based on the primary health care approach.

### 13.11 Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)

The general objective proposed for the period 1990-1995 is to collaborate with Member Countries to strengthen their technical capability for the prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases of national and regional significance.



The specific objectives are:

- To cooperate with Member Countries to expand existing national STD control activities and to facilitate their integration into primary health care services;
- To collaborate with Member Countries to improve the collection and analysis of STD data in order to produce and disseminate useful local, national and regional information.

13.12 Vaccine Research and Development

(There is no AMRO/PAHO program in this area.)

13.13 Other Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Activities

(There is no AMRO/PAHO program in this area.)

13.14 Blindness and Deafness

The main objectives of these components are:

- the elimination of avoidable blindness and deafness;
- the promotion of eye and ear health and well-being of the population.

13.15 Cancer

The main objective of this component of the program is the reduction of morbidity and mortality through the promotion of cancer prevention and control activities, within the general health services.

Other objectives are:

- To ensure adequate collection and dissemination of technical information;
- To promote epidemiological and clinical research in cancer;
- To develop health manpower for cancer prevention and control programs.

13.16 Cardiovascular Diseases

The efforts required to meet the program's objectives have to be directed toward prevention and the promotion of health to reduce the serious consequences or these diseases in terms of morbidity, disability, death and social cost, an undertaking that constitutes a challenge for the national and international health agencies.

13.17 Other Chronic Noncommunicable Diseases

The objective of the regional program is to reduce the mortality from other noncommunicable diseases and to prevent complications and disabilities by means of prevention and control activities. To achieve this objective the program will promote and support the organizing and adaptation of the health services to meet the care needs caused by chronic noncommunicable health problems, together with related research.

D. PROGRAM SUPPORT

14. Health Information Support

The general objective is to ensure the availability to Member Countries of valid scientific, technical, managerial, and other information relating to health, in printed and other forms, whether originating within the Organization or outside it, particularly in relation to attaining the goal of Health for All by the Year 2000.

Scientific information and technology are fundamental to the formulation, execution and evaluation of health programs. Within this function, programs to promote, support and assist national health information systems will be continued. Cooperative projects will be aimed at the strengthening of information exchange through regional and subregional networks. Programs to enhance the identification and exchange of non-traditional methods and scientific literature supportive of primary health care will be carried out along with those assuring greater access to conventional scientific literature. Health information will be catalogued and distributed through information centers within the various ministries of health of Member Countries and AMRO/PAHO field offices.

15. Support Services

15.1 Personnel

Personnel management programs will have as their primary objective the enhancement of the quality of technical cooperation which the staff of the Region provides to the Member Countries.

Within this context, major emphasis will be placed on providing support to augment the administrative skills and capabilities of the Region at the country level. The various approaches selected will further reflect policies and priorities concerning the geographical representation of the Member Countries on the staff and the recruitment of women to professional and higher-graded posts.

For staff at all levels, their development, training, utilization and evaluation will likewise receive priority attention.

15.2 General Administration and Services

The Department of Conference and General Services is responsible for providing administrative support, building and other services for AMRO/PAHO.

It is responsible for the development of administrative norms and guidelines on telecommunications, language services, registry of correspondence, management of reproduction services, and insurance coverage for real estate, installations and equipment throughout the Regional Office.

15.3 Budget and Finance

This program covers budgetary policies and procedures, budget development and execution, financial management and accounting policies, execution of financial rules and regulations and supporting procedures, banking and investments, disbursing and reporting on AMRO/PAHO funds, field office financial administration, health insurance, payroll, pension and income tax administration, and financial management of extrabudgetary funds.

15.4 Equipment and Supplies for Member States

This program covers the procurement and related supply services for the AMRO/PAHO operating programs and procurement and shipment of supplies and equipment on behalf of Member Countries and of WHO.