PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT THE XVII MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

"Methods of increasing health service coverage in rural areas"

I. Inaugural Session: (Friday, 6 October at 9 a.m.)*

Election of a Moderator and a Rapporteur General

1. General remarks by the Moderator

2. Rural health services - Dr. A. Drobny (PASB)

3. Social and cultural characteristics of rural areas, their influence and their relationship to health - Dr. Hector García Manzanedo (Social Anthropologist, Berkeley, California)

4. Economic aspects of rural areas and their relationship to health - Dr. Alfonso Rochac, (ODECA, San Salvador, El Salvador)

5. Experience gained in rural health programs in Venezuela - Dr. Oscar Lobo Castellanos (Ministry of Health and Social Welfare)

6. Peruvian program for the development and social integration of the Indian population (a Peruvian Representative)

II. Round table discussion

*Subject to approval by the General Committee.
III. Meetings of Working Parties. Three Working Parties will be established and will meet on Friday the 6th at 2 p.m. and on Saturday the 7th at 9 a.m. Each Working Party will elect a Moderator and a Rapporteur.

IV. In agreement with the Rapporteur General, the Working Party Rapporteurs will prepare the Final Report to be submitted to the Directing Council.

**SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION BY THE WORKING PARTIES**

"Methods for increasing health service coverage in rural areas"

1. Working definition of rural areas.

2. Economic and social problems of rural areas and their relationship to health. Migration to the cities.

3. Health problems - Improving the amount and quality of statistical information; communicable diseases; malaria; children's diseases; undernourishment; environmental sanitation.

4. Health activities as a means of community development - Integration with other economic and social development programs.

5. Research in rural areas - ecological and socio-cultural criteria - Basic information about the rural environment for the formulation of health programs.

6. Existing resources
   a) Infra-structure
   b) Personnel

7. Methods of increasing coverage of the rural population
   a) Regionalized services
   b) Minimum rural services - delimitation of their area of influence
   c) Coordination of institutional resources
   d) Vertical eradication programs (Malaria)
e) Integration with other community development programs
f) Participation of social security agencies

8. Minimum activities of rural health services
a) Production of basic information on health problems
b) Disease prevention and health promotion activities
c) First aid and restoration of health

9. Personnel required - their training
a) Professional
b) Auxiliary
c) Training
d) Manual of procedures
e) Supervision