EXTENSION OF HEALTH SERVICES

This report on the steps taken to implement Resolution XIX of the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee concerning the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas and the formulation of national and regional strategies for achieving the goal of the year 2000 is submitted to the Directing Council for consideration.

As set forth in Resolution XIX, a work plan consolidating the above-mentioned activities into a single process was prepared. The proposed Plan was examined and discussed at a special meeting of the Subcommittee on Long-term Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee, which is composed of the Representatives of Canada and Guatemala, and by the PAHO Headquarters Program Committee. The Subcommittee on Planning and Programming of the Executive Committee was established in compliance with Resolution XIII of the 82nd Meeting of the Executive Committee. At the above-mentioned joint meeting, suggestions were made for adjusting the purpose of the Plan, which has four principal components:

1. An evaluation of the efforts made by the countries from 1971 to date, in accordance with the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas. This evaluation is to be made by the Governments in the second half of 1979 so that, in the first half of 1980, the Bureau will be able to collate at the regional level the information provided by the countries on the national evaluations.

2. As and when the national evaluation is made, the health authorities will analyze the strategies used by the countries. With these elements and taking into account the commitments made by the governments with respect to the goal "Health for All by the Year 2000,"
the Member Countries are expected to define their national strategies. This action is to be taken in each country in the period September 1979-January 1980.

3. The Organization will process the information the Governments provide on the national strategies used and those they formulate for achieving the goal of the year 2000. In accordance with the characteristics of those strategies, a regional profile will be prepared, grouping countries with similar priorities and strategies.

4. This document, together with the information on the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan and the document on "Implications of the Global Goal 'Health for All by the Year 2000' for the Countries of the Region of the Americas," will serve as terms of reference enabling the Member Governments to formulate their proposed regional strategies, which will be discussed at the XXVII Meeting of the Directing Council as the basis for the adoption of regional strategies.

As a starting point for the process, national personnel and PASB personnel have been briefed on the approaches to be followed and on the proposed procedures. Accordingly, a series of subregional working groups has been organized for the purpose of exchanging knowledge and experience of the countries on the evaluation of the Ten-Year Health Plan and on the formulation of strategies; they include both national officials and the staff of the Bureau. In the above-mentioned meetings, information was provided on the process, and the possible approaches to be followed were examined, as were the procedures the countries might wish to take into consideration in this activity.

To facilitate the tasks defined in Resolution XIX, the Bureau has made the following reference material available to the health authorities:

- Guidelines for Evaluating the Ten-Year Health Plan for the Americas;

- Reference document on "Implications of the Global Goal 'Health for All by the Year 2000' for the Countries of the Region of the Americas"; and

- Guidelines for Analyzing the Strategies Used and for Formulating National Strategies for Achieving the Goal of the Year 2000.
In accordance with the work plan, the Directing Council, at its XXVII Meeting in September/October 1980, is expected to adopt the regional strategies, which will constitute the contribution of the Region of the Americas to the world strategies for achieving the goal of health for all by the year 2000.

The definition of regional strategies will enable the Secretariat to prepare the contribution of the Region of the Americas to the WHO Seventh Program of Work (1984-1989).