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SELECTION OF THREE MEMBERS TO THE POLICY AND COORDINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH TRAINING IN HUMAN REPRODUCTION

The Policy and Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) of the Special Program of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction acts as an advisory body to the Director-General of WHO, and makes recommendations on matters related to the policies, strategies, financing, overall organization, management and impact of the Special Program. Its membership will not exceed 30, and due consideration will be given to a regional distribution, keeping in mind the relative importance ascribed to research in fertility regulation in different parts of the world.

There are four categories of Committee members, as follows:

Category a) is composed of the 12 largest financial contributors to the Program in the previous year. The countries, in this category are not eligible for selection by the Regional Committees.

Category b) is composed of 12 member countries selected by WHO Regional Committees for three-year terms, with one-third of the 12 rotating off each year. The American Region is entitled to have two representatives. In selecting members, the Regional Committees are asked to take into account financial and/or technical support to the Program as well as interest in human reproduction, as demonstrated by national policies.

Category c) is composed of three members selected by the PCAC from other interested countries and nongovernmental agencies for one-year terms.

Category d), permanent members, is composed, at the present time, of the following three organizations: United Nations Fund for Population Activities, World Bank, and International Planned Parenthood Federation.

At this time, the Regional Committee for the Americas is requested to select three members with different tenure dates, one for the period ending December 1986, one for the period ending December 1988, and one for the period starting January 1987 and ending December 1989.

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SELECTION OF THREE MEMBERS TO THE POLICY AND COORDINATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM OF RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH TRAINING IN HUMAN REPRODUCTION

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 Program Statement

The Special Program of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction is the main instrument of the World Health Organization and of the entire United Nations system for conducting, promoting, coordinating and evaluating international research and development related to human reproduction, fertility regulation and family planning, with special emphasis on the needs of developing countries.

The Program's mandate from the World Health Assembly encompasses a broad spectrum of activities, such as research on, and the development of, new and improved methods of fertility regulation; extensive studies on the safety and efficacy of existing and newly developed methods of fertility regulation; research on the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of infertility; studies on the behavioral and social determinants of fertility regulation; and research on relevant health services.

An equally important component of the Program is the support and further development of the necessary national and international resources for research, including institution strengthening in developing countries, the development of laboratory procedures, and the provision of various types of scientific information, standardized reagents and supplies.

The Program plays an important role in the review and provision of recommendations on modernization and updating of the drug regulatory process, with special emphasis on the requirements of developing countries and the needs of drug regulatory bodies in developing countries.

As an intergovernmental, worldwide program, the Special Program has an important coordinating and advisory function, which is available to national, regional or international programs active in the field. The Special Program collaborates with such agencies in a variety of ways, such as in the conduct of joint research projects, the provision of assistance on the design of different studies and large-scale comparative testing of new agents, and the organization of joint symposia, seminars and workshops.

1.2 Advisory Bodies

The Program has two major advisory bodies: the Policy and Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC), and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG).

The Policy and Coordination Advisory Committee acts as an advisory body to the Director-General of WHO and makes recommendations on matters related to the policies, strategies, financing, overall organization, management and impact of the Special Program. Its membership shall not exceed 30, and due consideration is given to regional distribution, keeping in mind the relative importance ascribed to research in fertility regulation in different parts of the world.

Membership of the Committee is as follows:

Category a) - Largest financial contributors	12 members
Category b) - Countries elected by WHO Regional Committees	12 members
Category c) - Interested countries and nongovernmental agencies	3 members
Category d) - Permanent members	3 members

Largest financial contributors. Category a) is composed of the 12 largest financial contributors to the Program in the previous year. In 1985 these were: Australia, China, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

The countries forming category a) will automatically be invited to the 1986 PCAC meeting and are therefore not eligible for selection by the Regional Committees.

Countries selected by WHO Regional Committees. Category b) is composed of 12 members selected by WHO Regional Committees for three year terms, with one-third of the 12 rotating off each year. In selecting members, the Regional Committees are asked to take into account financial and/or technical support to the Program as well as interest in human reproduction, as demonstrated by national policies.

The number of Category b) PCAC members are distributed by WHO Regions, following roughly the population distribution among the Regions:

AFRO	2
AMRO*	2
EMRO	1
EURO	1
SEARO	3
WPRO	3

* In 1986 three countries will be selected with different tenure dates in order to build a rotation system.

Other interested countries and nongovernmental agencies. Category c) is composed of three members selected by the PCAC for one-year terms. Candidates from governments, agencies, foundations and other bodies may declare their interest 60 days in advance of the PCAC meeting where the selection will be made, that is, the meeting prior to the one to be attended.

For the 1986 meeting only, the PCAC authorized the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chairman of the PCAC, to explore the interest of various parties, and to select up to three members, after members in categories a) and b) have been determined.

Permanent members. Category d) is composed, at the present time, of the following three organizations--United Nations Fund for Population Activities, World Bank, and International Planned Parenthood Federation--which, by their policies and financial/operational contributions, have shown an interest in the field of population/family planning.

Observers. Member States may send observers, and other observers from other entities may attend at the discretion of the Director of the Program in consultation with the Chairman of the PCAC. Observers are expected to meet their own expenses.

Table 1 lists the countries and agencies which were invited to attend the PCAC in 1984 and 1985, by category of membership. (The list is the same for both years.)

2. ACTIVITIES IN THE AMERICAN REGION

The Special Program of Research Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction, HRP/WHO, has supported activities in the Region of the Americas since 1973 (Table 2).

The most active countries in Latin America and the Caribbean in the last four years have been Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, and Mexico, if funds spent can be taken as an indicator of a country's interest in participating in the Special Program's activities.

Since December 1985, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, and Mexico have had Collaborating Centers working with the program. Colombia is in the process of working toward the redesignation of its Center in Cali. Argentina, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Guatemala have applied to the Special Program for the designation of Collaborating Centers in their respective countries.

3. ACTION REQUESTED

The Policy and Coordination Advisory Committee (PCAC) has recommended that the Regional Committees should be responsible for the selection of the twelve (12) members countries constituting category b) for three-year terms of office with one member rotating off each year.

The XXII Pan American Sanitary Conference, in its capacity as the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas, is being asked, therefore, to select three members (with different tenure dates) for category b) of the PCAC, from among the Member Countries of the Region, keeping in mind that those countries listed in category a) cannot be selected. (See section 1.2 above.)

The following tenure periods are proposed:

- One Member Country to be selected for the period starting now and ending 31 December 1986;
- One Member Country to be selected for the period starting now and ending 31 December 1988;
- One Member Country to be selected for the period starting 1 January 1987 and ending 31 December 1989.

Selection should take into account a country's financial and/or technical support to the Special Program as well as its interest in the field of population/family planning, as demonstrated by national policies and programs.

The attention of the Conference is drawn to the fact that governments and organizations which have not been selected for membership in the PCAC may, subject to its prior approval, attend its meetings as observers. The Regional Director will be pleased to communicate the name of any such government or organization to the PCAC.

Table 1

PROGRAM COORDINATION AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Countries/Agencies Invited, 1984 and 1985

a) Financial Sponsors

United Kingdom
Sweden
Norway
Denmark
Australia
Federal Republic of Germany
Finland
People's Republic of China
India

Total 9

b) Developing Countries

Kenya
Senegal
Zimbabwe
Pakistan
Egypt
Turkey
Thailand
Indonesia
Malaysia
Mexico
Cuba
Brazil

Total 12

c) Interested Governments and Agencies

Italy
Netherlands
USA
France
USSR
Canada

Total 6

d) Interested Agencies

UNFPA
World Bank
IPPF

Total 3

Grand Total 30

Table 2

SPECIAL PROGRAM OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND
RESEARCH TRAINING IN HUMAN REPRODUCTION

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS

COUNTRY	1973-1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	TOTAL
Argentina	2,032,655	9,620	-	-	-	-	2,042,275
Brazil	1,130,850	85,536	128,952	69,779	64,508	-	1,479,625
Canada	1,303,537	26,772	-	58,000	58,000	-	1,446,309
Chile	2,028,505	189,586	168,422	185,717	185,884	25,974	2,784,088
Colombia	678,968	53,870	98,722	44,239	49,559	-	925,358
Cuba	1,122,036	146,160	115,081	137,841	134,238	10,900	1,666,256
Dominican Republic	-	-	-	-	-	9,489	9,489
Ecuador	12,900	-	-	-	-	-	12,900
El Salvador	30,500	-	-	-	-	-	30,500
Guatemala	35,300	-	-	-	-	-	35,300
Haiti	-	1,500	-	-	-	-	1,500
Jamaica	18,378	-	25,360	-	-	-	43,738
Mexico	1,524,878	222,812	221,182	351,525	277,289	31,174	2,628,860
Panama	34,900	-	-	3,000	-	-	37,900
Paraguay	106,607	1,000	2,000	2,000	-	-	111,607
Peru	94,293	37,974	96,620	70,500	8,760	-	308,147
USA	13,044,433	935,779	870,116	871,515	1,003,222	83,538	16,808,603
Uruguay	118,025	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	126,025
Venezuela	22,700	16,500	1,050	-	-	-	40,250
TOTAL	23,339,465	1,729,109	1,729,505	1,796,116	1,783,460	161,075	30,538,730

Source: HRP financial records.