



Technical

Discussions



Washington, D.C.
September-October 1971

Agenda Item 18

CD20/DT/4 (Eng.)
30 September 1971
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PROPOSED GUIDE FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

1. How can Ministries of Health participate effectively in the environmental manipulations essential to national and regional economic growth?

1.1 What responsibilities must ministries of health continue, strengthen or assume in response to a changing environment?

1.2 How should environmental responsibilities of the health agencies be allocated and structured?

1.3 What forms of coordination should be established between ministries of health and other agencies and institutions with environmental programs?

1.4 What are the budgetary or financing procedures that may assure regard for health effects of environmental programs?

2. What environmental projects require the highest priority in health programs?

2.1 What are the present methods used to establish criteria for determining priorities?

2.2 Are these methods satisfactory in view of the changing environment? If not, how can they be improved?

2.3 What degree of priority is accorded to health projects in national planning?

3. What are the most important parameters to be considered in environmental surveillance and monitoring for health purposes?

3.1 What kinds of environmental and health data are needed.

3.2 What are practical systems for gathering these data?

3.3 What can health agencies do to establish base lines for environmental appraisal, levels of acceptable exposures, and standard methods of sampling, measurement, and analysis?

3.4 What are the advantages or disadvantages of a common system for gathering and exchanging environmental information?

4. In view of rapid changes in the environment, what programs and facilities will assist health ministries to anticipate future demands on their services?

4.1 What steps have been taken to assess and predict the health effects of environmental changes?

4.2 What kinds of environmental studies appear most likely to enable health officials to predict the nature and degree of future stresses?

4.3 What are your present capacities and methods for performing such studies?

4.4 What are the advantages or disadvantages of collaborating with a regional center to pool information and expertise in such studies?

5. What kinds and levels of manpower in specialized occupations are needed by environmental health programs in the next ten years?

5.1 Are the skills and knowledge of present staff sufficient to meet future needs? If not, what new forms of preparation or re-education will be needed?

5.2 What methods are most appropriate - in-service, on the job, home study, or formal academic instruction - for preparing personnel for certain special forms of work?

5.3 What need is there for persons qualified in several disciplines to work on interdisciplinary projects?