



Technical Discussions



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DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE WITH DUE REGARD TO THE NEED FOR EXTENSION OF COVERAGE

Guidelines for the Discussions

The purpose of these Guidelines is simply to help to focus the analysis of specific areas regarded as of substantive significance for the topic. They are not in any way exhaustive, and they might be used as a starting-point for the inclusion of other points which the Group feels to be important.

1. Political decision-making on extension of coverage

What conditions must exist before it can be said that a political decision has been taken in regard to extension of coverage?

2. Concept of extension of coverage

2.1 How would it be possible to adjust the structure of supply of the health system to the needs of the entire population?

2.2 Among the factors conditioning and restricting the development of coverage, which are the most significant, and of these which are the ones that can be modified by immediate, short-term action by health workers?

3. Resources for achieving coverage

3.1 What will be the requirements and characteristics imposed by the decision to extend coverage on programs for the creation, "capacitation," adaptation and utilization of community resources?

3.2 What are the effects of the decision to extend coverage on the national programs of administrative development?

3.3 What are the conditions that need to be defined by the health sector in order to broaden the basis of its financing?

4. Intercountry cooperation

In what fields would cooperation among the countries of the Americas make for optimum development of the national patterns of expansion of coverage?