

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREAS OF WORK COVERED BY THE STRATEGIC AND PROGRAMMATIC ORIENTATIONS AND OTHER SUPPORTING AREAS

I. HEALTH IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

- Increase equity in health and improve the health sector's contribution to human development.
- Promote and support activities related to Bioethics.
- Strengthen the epidemiological capacity of Member States and of the Bureau.
- Coordinate and support the development and dissemination of scientific information.
- Develop and maintain appropriate information technology.

II. HEALTH PROMOTION AND PROTECTION

- Promotion of the use of the life cycle approach and health promotion strategies in the development of national health plans, policies and programs with particular emphasis in mental health, tobacco and substance abuse control and nutrition.
- Development and implementation of perinatal health programs.
- Capacity building to improve food and nutrition security in the countries of Central America and Panama.
- National capacity building to improve food and nutrition security in the Caribbean countries.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT

- Policy and program development for diminishing the inequities related to the exposure to environmental risks; basic sanitation, water quality and workers' health.
- Capacity building of national institutions to develop technologies for managing environmental risks for public health.

IV. HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES DEVELOPMENT

- National capacity building to make universal access to quality health care possible and sustainable focussing on health sector reform; human resources development and special initiatives for indigenous groups.
- National capacity building and management in dental and supporting medical services such as: radiological, laboratory, information; and pharmaceuticals.
- Improve countries' capabilities to prepare for or reduce the damage caused by disasters.

V. DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

- National capacity building for the prevention, control, and elimination of communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- National capacity building for improving criteria for the adoption of policies and programs for vaccine development and expanding immunization programs.
- Strengthening national capacities to prevent outbreaks, and expand eradication of foot-and-mouth disease.
- Surveillance and Evaluation of the health status of the population in the Caribbean.
- Strengthen national capacities to develop programs of food protection.

VI. GOVERNING BODIES AND COORDINATION

This section includes the activities of the Secretariat in the following areas:

- Coordination and collaboration with United Nations and inter-American systems in the Region, with other organizations, and with multilateral and bilateral programs. Coordination of resource mobilization
- Management, coordination and supervision of PAHO/WHO Country Offices and programs at regional and national levels.
- Promotion and support of activities of technical cooperation among countries (TCC), which would serve as a catalyst in supporting the governments' efforts in identifying, planning, and implementing mechanisms of intercountry cooperation at bilateral, subregional, regional, and global levels.
- Preparation, convening and conducting meetings of the Organization's Governing Bodies: Pan American Sanitary Conference, Directing Council and Executive Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Programming; Sub-Committee on Women., as well as any other such subcommittees as may be set up by the Governing Bodies.

VII. GENERAL DIRECTION

- Overall leadership of the Secretariat and management of the Regional Director's Development Program to support emerging priorities and innovative technical cooperation programs which cannot be specifically determined at the time of the program budget approval.
- Strategic Planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation of technical cooperation as well as institutional and organizational development.
- Staff Development and Training.
- Mobilization of public opinion in support of major health objectives, including utilization of mass communication techniques in the promulgation of basic tenets of health promotion.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- General administrative services including: Budget, finance, and accounting services; General services to support conferences, building services and procurement; management of human resources;