

**PROPOSED
LATIN AMERICA and CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE MEETING
November 2001
Sao Paulo, Brazil**

Background

Infectious diseases are responsible for almost half of mortality in developing countries. These deaths occur primarily among the poorest people because they do not have access to the drugs and commodities necessary for prevention or cure. Approximately half of infectious disease mortality can be attributed to just three diseases – HIV, TB and malaria. These three diseases cause over 300 million illnesses and more than 5 million deaths each year.

None of these diseases has an effective vaccine to prevent infection in children and adults.

Some 1.3 million people are believed to be living with HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean. HIV prevalence is estimated at under 1 adult in 100 in all but a handful of the region's 44 countries and territories.

HIV prevalence among pregnant women is likely to be less representative of rates among all sexually active women than in other parts of the developing world. That said, they are still among the best indicators of HIV in the general population. HIV has reached levels of 1% among pregnant women in Honduras and more than 3% in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Rates are substantially higher in the Caribbean. By 1993, 8% of pregnant women in Haiti were infected with the virus, and the same prevalence was reported from one surveillance site in the Dominican Republic in 1996.

Data of WHO shows more than 134 000 new cases/year of tuberculosis in Latin America and Caribbean and endemic malaria in at least 21 countries in the region with more than 600 000 cases notified in Brazil, 160 000 cases in Peru and 66 0000 cases notified in Colombia between 1995 and 1997.

Objectives

The objectives of the Latin America and Caribbean country consultation are:

- To inform countries of background and progress on establishing the Fund
- To inform countries of Title, Principles, and Scope of the Fund that agreed upon by TWG **in the first meeting on 11 –12 October 2001.**
- To identify
 - How the Fund can best match resources with priorities and needs of countries in Latin America and Caribbean.
 - How the Fund can support the expanded coverage of prevention, care support and treatment activities for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, **with a good balance among the three diseases and choices of intervention.**
 - Ways of effective operation in conflict or disaster situations.

- To discuss issues of governance, eligibility criteria, country processes, **accountability** and technical review **and advice** process of the Fund.
- **To identify how to enhance comprehensive dialogue and coordination among key actors including government organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector, international organizations, bilateral and multilateral collaborations at the country level in dealing with HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria in relation to support to be received from the Fund.**

Expected Outcome

- Countries are informed and prepared to engage in the Fund when it becomes operational
- Countries **contribute to their ideas, position and suggestions as regard** to the preparation documents of governance, eligibility criteria, country processes and technical review **and advice process of the Fund**. This will be an important input for the TWG 2nd meeting in November 2001.

Location

Sao Paulo, Brazil

Time

18-19 November 2001

Participants

Latin America and Caribbean countries with representatives from GO, NGOs, CBOs, private sector, TWG,

Host

The Government of Brazil

Financing

Organizer

Government of Brazil through Ministry of Health and the Horizontal Technical Cooperation Group

PROPOSED AGENDA

DAY 1

08.00-09.00	Register
09.00-09.15	Welcoming Remarks from Chairman of TWG
09.15-09.30	Establishment of the Fund: Its purpose, process of establishment Title, Principles and Scope of the Fund Paul Ehmer (TSS Team Leader)
09.30-09.45	Agreement on Procedural Methods: Introduction of paper on working procedures
09.45-10.00	Break
10.00-11.30	Working session 1 Introduction and Plenary discussion on Governance, accountability, and technical review and advise process of the Fund
11.30-12.30	Working session 2 Introduction and Plenary discussion on Eligibility Criteria of the Fund
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-15.30	2 Group works on (1) Governance, accountability, and technical review and advise process and (2) Eligibility criteria
15.30-15.45	Break
15.45-17.30	Report of 2 group works on (1) Governance, accountability, and technical review and advise process and (2) Eligibility criteria for discussion and agreement
18.00-20.00	Dinner (?)

DAY 2

09.00-11.00	Working session 3 Introduction and Plenary on Country Process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposal preparation• Monitoring and evaluation• Role and accountability of stakeholders
11.00-11.15	Break
11.15-12.30	2 group works on (1) Proposal preparation and monitoring and evaluation and (2) Role and accountability of stakeholders
12.30-13.30	Lunch
13.30-14.30	Group works continue
14.30-17.00	Report of group works on Country process (1) Proposal preparation and monitoring and evaluation and (2) Role and accountability of stakeholders for discussion and agreement
17.00-17.30	Closing