PLANNING SESSION ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND HEALTH OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

September 5, 2007

PAHO/WHO, Washington, DC

Participants

Health Canada
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

- Dawn Walker
- Andrea Botto
- Libbie Driscull

University of Northern British Columbia
National Collaborating Center for Aboriginal Health

- Margo Greenwood
- Griffin, Sandra

Indian Health Service

- Leo Nolan

Johns Hopkins University

- Olivia Sloan
  Center for American Indian Health

Indigenous Leaders

- Martínez, Mateo C.
  Executive Secretary of the Indigenous Fund
- Luz Marina Vega
  Municipality of Cotacachi, Ecuador
- Mirna Cunningham
  Center for the Autonomy and Development of the Indigenous Peoples (CADPI, Nicaragua)

Pan American Health Organization

- Dr. José Luis Di Fabio
  Area Manager, Technology and Health Service Delivery
- Dr. Rocío Rojas
  Regional Advisor on Health of Indigenous Peoples

Issues discussed

- Inclusion of health of the indigenous peoples within the framework of the Commission of Social Determinants from the World Health Organization.
- Results from the meetings in Adelaide, Australia (29 -30 April, 2007) and Vancouver, Canada (7 – 9 June, 2007) on social determinants of health of the indigenous peoples.
- Report on Social Determinants of Health of the Indigenous Peoples: the international experience and its implications in the formulation of policies (elaborated from the Adelaide discussions).
- Course on Social Determinants of Health of the Indigenous Peoples organized by the Center for American Indian Health, Johns Hopkins University (23 – 27 July, 2007).

General conclusions

- The best knowledge and analysis of social determinants of health of the indigenous peoples agrees with the demands of the indigenous peoples who propose a holistic and integral approach to health.
- Within the work of the social determinants there is the challenge to relate the international processes generated by the Commission of Social Determinants of WHO and the local experiences that show concrete results with the indigenous peoples.
- The establishment of synergy between similar initiatives conceived from the John Hopkins University and the Intercultural Indigenous University sponsored by the Indigenous Fund is fundamental to augment results.

Specific conclusions

- It is important that the social determinants of health of indigenous health incorporate the vision of the indigenous peoples of the Americas and it is proposed:
  - Diffusion of all documents in Spanish. A revision will be done of those documents that are available already in Spanish and those that need translation. (Sandra Griffin, National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health de Canada will identify which is already available in Spanish);
  - Elaborate a proposal for the coordination of the Intercultural Indigenous University and John Hopkins University on the subject of social determinants of health of the indigenous peoples;
  - Incorporate the theme of social determinants of health of indigenous peoples in the agenda of general global, regional, national and local events. A list of possible events are enclosed;
  - Promote discussion at different national, regional, subnational and national levels that lead to a final regional event;
  - Establish a Planning Committee to do the follow up to the processes and convene a meeting of this committee for two days the last week of October in

Mexico City. At the meeting, besides the planning committee, the participation of more indigenous representatives, public health officials and PAHO advisors will be sought.

Annex
Next programmed meetings

Meeting	Site and dates
1. Meeting of the Commission of Social Determinants of WHO	Beijin, China, October, 2007
2. 27th Pan American Sanitary Conference	Washington, DC, 1-5th October 2007
3. 141th Session of the Executive Committee	Washington, DC, 5th October 2007
4. VII Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum of Indigenous Affairs.	New Cork, May 2008
5. Parallel Event to the VII UN Permanent Forum of Indigenous Affaire.	New York, May 2008
6. Indigenous Fund General Assembly	
7. Johns Hopkins University Summer Institute	Baltimore, MD, EUA
8. Meeting of the Commission of Social Determinants of WHO	Japan 2008