



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



48th DIRECTING COUNCIL

60th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington, D.C., USA, from 29 September to 3 October 2008

Provisional Agenda Item 4.10

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PANEL ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: ADDRESSING HEALTH DETERMINANTS AND STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. Opening: President of the Directing Council**
- 2. Presenter:**
 - A. *Sir Michael Marmot: Chair, Commission on Social Determinants of Health***

Dr. Marmot will discuss the recommendations of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH), publicly constituted in March 2005 by the World Health Organization (WHO) through decisions of the 57th World Health Assembly, with the mission of collecting data and evidence on the social and environmental causes of health inequalities and on potential ways to correct them. More specifically, he will discuss three principles of action linked with (1) strategies for improving the living conditions in which populations are born, grow, work, and age; (2) the structural factors of unequal distribution of power, money, and resources; and (3) raising public awareness about the social determinants of health and expansion of the knowledge base with training and measurement of the magnitude of health inequities. *(10 minutes)*

B. *Dr. Wim Van Lerbeghe: Health Systems and Services Cluster, WHO*

Dr. Lerbeghe will discuss the main elements of WHO's renewed vision in Primary Health Care (PHC), with special reference to the strengthening of PHC-based health systems and their contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the elimination of inequities in health care, and the guarantee of universal access to health services. *(10 minutes)*

C. *Dr. Socorro Gross-Galiano: Assistant Director, PAHO*

Dr. Gross-Galiano will present the Organization's perspective for responding to the mandate to provide technical cooperation in order to strengthen PHC-based health systems. She will stress the creation of local service networks structured around PHC; the integration of health programs (by diseases or special groups) and the health services; efforts to extend social protection in health and universal coverage; human resources development; and intersectoral action to address health determinants and engage in health promotion by coordinating public policies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. *(10 minutes)*

3. Commentators

- Dr. Hubert Alexander Minnis, Minister of Health, Bahamas *(10 minutes)*
- Dr. José Guillermo Maza, Minister of Health, El Salvador *(10 minutes)*

4. Plenary discussion *(35 minutes)*

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Rapporteurs

- Dr. Hernán Montenegro, Regional Adviser on Health Systems and Services, PAHO
- Dr. Marilyn Rice, Regional Adviser on Sustainable Development and Environmental Health, PAHO

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