CONFERENCE ON ETHICS IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH REGULATIONS, HEALTHCARE AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Final Report

Organizers:
- Bioethics Program, Pan American Health Organization.
- Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics in Research (Collaborating Center of the World Health Organization).

Sponsors:
- Joint Center for Bioethics, University of Toronto, Canada.
- Ethics Programs, University of Miami, USA.
- Heidelberg Center for Latin America, Universität Heidelberg, Germany.

Intercontinental Hotel Santiago de Chile.

The objectives of the meeting were to examine the ethical basis of regulations for scientific research in medicine and social sciences related to health. Written rules and regulatory procedures in various countries were compared and analysed. The meeting concluded with recommendations for the work of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in the Region of the Americas and the Caribbean.

The program included both lectures and discussion seminars, attended by 120 professionals, thirty of whom were foreign guests. Simultaneous translation English-Spanish was provided and the proceedings were transmitted by webcast. All lectures and discussions were recorded.

Press coverage was moderate, since it was defined as a working meeting of the Pan American Health Organization itself without breaking stories of controversial issues. However, it coincided with the outbreak of swine influenza that captured the attention of the media.

The main outcome of the meeting was to strengthen the guiding role of the PAHO Bioethics Program on for discussions pertaining to the moral foundations that legislators and drafters of written rules take into account when preparing texts. Sometimes the ethical directives are explicit, but sometimes they are more inspirational for the reflection and analysis needed to assess their importance and influence. Conferences delivered at the meeting will be published in a supplement of the journal Acta Bioethica and available on a DVD that will be distributed to interested parties.

After the congress, a meeting of all Collaborating Centers in Bioethics of the World Health Organization was held. Attended by delegates from the centers of Canberra, Toronto, Miami, and Santiago, with connections to Paris and Zurich at that meeting, the first of its kind, a network of partners was established that will enhance the work of each by a synergy that allows resources to be shared.
PROGRAM

International Conference: "Health Regulation Ethics"
April 23-25, 2009

Thursday, April 23

09:00 – 09:15 a.m. Opening Remarks
Juan Manuel Sotelo, Fernando Lolas

09:15 – 10:00 a.m. Paper Session
Ethical Foundations of Health Regulations
María Casado

10:00 – 10:40 a.m. Paper Session
Ethical Foundations of Research with Human Subjects
Ross Upshur

11:00 – 12:30 a.m. Roundtable
The Need to Regulate
Gonzalo Figueroa, Marie-Charlotte Bouësseau, Andreas Reis
Moderator: Angélica Sotomayor

2:30 – 3:15 p.m. Roundtable
New Developments in International Guidelines
Marie-Charlotte Bouësseau, Adolfo Martínez-Palomino, Analía Pérez
Moderator: Francisco León

Friday, April 24

09:00 – 9:45 a.m. Paper Session
Laws, Regulations and Guidelines on Research with Human Subjects in Latin America
Edward Bartlett

9:45 – 11:00 a.m. Roundtable
The State of Regulations in Latin American Countries and the Caribbean
Leo Pessini, Salvador Bergel, José Ramón Ramírez Gorostiza, María Angélica Sotomayor
Moderator: María Angélica Sotomayor

11:20 – 12:30 p.m. Paper Session
Legislative Levels
Melody Lin

2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Paper Session
Cultural Bioethics: Priorities in Health, Conflict of Interests and Vulnerable Populations
Kenneth Goodman

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Roundtable
Processes of Social Participation
Dirceu Raposo, Ingrid Heittrman

4:50 – 6:00 p.m. Paper Session
General Regulatory Policies and Their Impact on Scientific Investigation and Healthcare Practice
Adolfo Martínez-Palomino

Saturday, April 25

09:00 – 10:00 a.m. Roundtable
Regulation and Interculturalism
Sergio Litewka, Jennifer Gibson
Moderator: Laura Rueda

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Roundtable
International Models. Application of International Guidelines to National Regulations on Research and Healthcare
Aminu Yakubu, Amar Jesani, M. Selgelid
Moderator: Marie-Charlotte Bouësseau

11:15 – 12:30 p.m. Roundtable
Projections of Regulations in America
Gabriel D’Empaire, Iliana Herrera, Rafael Pérez, Luis Moreno, José Geraldo de Freitas Drumond
Moderator: Roberto Mancini

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Lineamientos editoriales del Programa de Bioética OPS/OMS.
Álvaro Quezada, Fernando Lolas

1:00 – 1:30 p.m. Conclusions and Closure
Fernando Lolas, José Luis Di Fabio