

PREFACE

This field guide was designed by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to offer health workers at different levels of the health care system and different programs in the schools of health sciences the tools to control jungle yellow fever and prevent its reurbanization in the Region of the Americas. It emphasizes clinical and epidemiological aspects of the disease, together with prevention and control strategies. It also offers practical exercises on a clinical case and outbreak for use in training health workers, especially local personnel in enzootic areas. The field guide covers prevention, proper case management, and the improvement of epidemiological surveillance.

Yellow fever remains a major public health problem in the Americas. The emergence of cases of the jungle form of the disease and the proliferation of *Aedes aegypti* throughout the Hemisphere denote the high risk of reurbanization of the disease.

The prevention and control measures described in this guide are based on the recommendations of the PAHO Technical Advisory Group on Vaccine-preventable Diseases, which urge the countries to put plans into action to combat yellow fever. The main recommendations include vaccination of all residents of enzootic areas, introduction of the vaccine in the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) to maintain high coverage in countries with enzootic areas, and vaccination of all travelers to these areas (migrants, ecotourists, etc.).

Although a great deal of progress has been made in yellow fever prevention and control, the countries must continue to adopt the recommended measures to prevent cases and outbreaks in historically enzootic areas and the reurbanization of the disease.