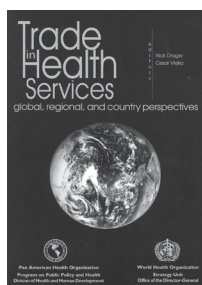


Trade in Health Services: Global, Regional, and Country Perspectives



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This publication gathers some of the papers presented at the Inter-regional Meeting on Health and Trade: Toward the Millennium Round, organized by the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization in 1999. The principal objective of the meeting was to identify and explore possible cooperation mechanisms between the health services and trade sectors in order to develop effective health protection and promotion strategies. Participants included experts on trade and health issues from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Indonesia, Switzerland, Thailand, and the United States.

The overarching conclusion emanating from the meeting is that unless the health and trade sectors develop strong linkages, health priorities will not be adequately taken into account by trade agreements currently under negotiation. In addition to being urgently needed, this cooperation is potentially feasible despite the gaps in knowledge and experience about trade and health service issues still prevailing at country, regional, and global levels. The recommendations made by the meeting's participants offer reasonable alternatives for dealing with health priorities within the context of multilateral trade agreements

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