



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DU PACIFIQUE OCCIDENTAL

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Twenty-third Session
Guam
27 September - 5 October 1972

TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

WPR/RC23/TD5
30 June 1972

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GUIDELINES FOR THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS

1. TOPIC

"Environmental Pollution Problems and Approach to their Control
in the Western Pacific Region".

2. PURPOSE OF THE DISCUSSION

- 2.1 To exchange information on environmental pollution and its control
in the countries of the Western Pacific Region.
- 2.2 To make suggestions for broadening and rendering more effective the
involvement of the public health authorities in these matters.

3. PREPARATION FOR THE DISCUSSION

It is suggested that participants familiarize themselves with the
situation in their country/territory, on such subjects as:

- The Government's broad policy with respect to environmental
pollution
- The nature and extent of the problem and particularly its
health significance
- The existing administrative, financial and legal mechanisms
to prevent and abate pollution
- The manpower resources, including training programmes
- Programmes and projects currently operational or under planning

/Comments and ...

Comments and suggestions will be requested from participants as a further basis for discussion with a view to adding to the pool of information already available and to providing new insights in the subject of environmental quality.

4. QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS

Primary attention will be given to the questions and problems raised by participants during the Technical Discussions.

It is however suggested that, during their deliberations, the participants may wish to consider the following points:

- Significance to health and basis for the establishment of criteria or standards of quality
- Existence and effectiveness of enabling and regulating legislation
- Distribution of responsibilities among different government agencies; limits of direct responsibility of the health authority
- Establishment of criteria for priorities in function of area needs, short- or long-term benefits (time horizon in planning), corrective or preventive action, etc.
- Organization and functions of laboratories
- Monitoring and surveillance responsibilities and techniques
- Allocation of financial resources; financial incentives such as tax relief for industrial pollution control equipment and subsidies for sewage disposal
- Education of the public and decision-makers