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Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences
Health and Environment Division
Pan American Health Organization
Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

GUIDELINES FOR THE SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF DRINKING WATER QUALITY

Ricardo Rojas
PAHO/CEPIS Advisor

With the sponsorship of the



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FOREWORD

The guidelines for the surveillance and control of drinking water quality are the outcome of a cooperation agreement between the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as part of our commitment to take action on the Plan for the Improvement of Water Quality in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The institution responsible for the operational development of this activity was the Pan American Center for Sanitary Engineering and Earthquake Sciences (PAHO/CEPIS), and the general coordinator and officer in charge of the project was Felipe Solsona, advisor in water quality. His counterpart in USEPA was Fred Hauchmann.

In producing this document, we followed a process which began with two workshops, where international experts on Drinking Water Quality came together to outline its contents and scope. Annex 1 gives details of the workshops and lists the participating experts.

Based on the guidelines produced at the two workshops, Ricardo Rojas, PAHO/CEPIS consultant and expert in water quality, drafted the document. Once completed, it was distributed to a number of international reviewers for assessment. Their names, countries of residence, and the agencies to which they belong are also listed in Annex 1. The resulting criticisms were duly analyzed and reviewers' suggestions have been incorporated into this final version.

At the same time, three case studies were prepared and developed as didactic complements to the Guidelines. The case studies are presented as appendices.

The first case study, a nationwide study, makes use of the data contributed by several countries in a spirit of cooperation. These data were consolidated to describe a single imaginary nation, referred to as "The Country".

The second case study, of an urban area, describes the supply system of the city of Cuzco (Peru). The city's water supply company supported us in this work.

Finally, for the third study, on water systems in a rural environment, we worked with the rural municipalities of the region of Cuzco, with the support of SANBASUR, a Peruvian agency sponsored by Swiss International Cooperation.

PAHO/WHO and USEPA express their gratitude to all those individuals and institutions whose contributions have made this document possible.

