

# Agreement of the Formation of the Caribbean Network for Health-Promoting Schools

*Participants agreement on the establishment of the Caribbean Network of Health Promoting Schools*

At a meeting on Health-Promoting Schools convened by the Pan American Health Organization in Barbados from 26-28 November 2001, professionals representing the Ministries of Health and Education of CARICOM and Associate Member States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and other regional institutions, recognizing the relationship between health and learning, called for the development of a Caribbean Network of Health-Promoting Schools as an important and significant process through which school communities might assume more control of and improve their health.

This cooperative action of the Network coincides with those being taken in the hemisphere in keeping with the plans and actions for the implementation of the Health Promotion Strategy as highlighted in the Caribbean Charter for Health Promotion.

The urgency for action is underpinned by the need to strengthen existing structures for improving the social, emotional, spiritual, psychosocial, and physical well being of students, school personnel, families, and communities.

Therefore, we the undersigned hereby create the Caribbean Network for Health-Promoting Schools.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2001.

| Participants Name | Signature              | Organization                              |
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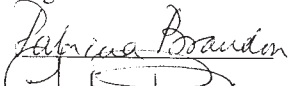
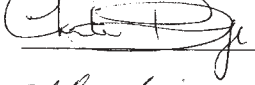
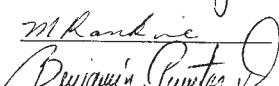


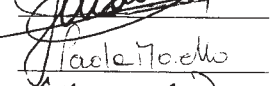
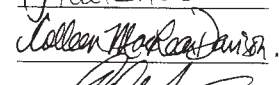
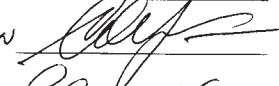
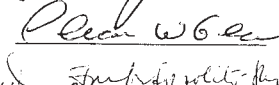
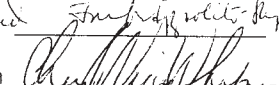
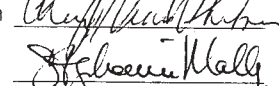
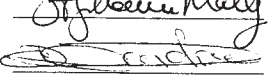
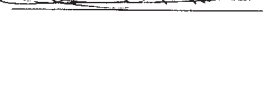

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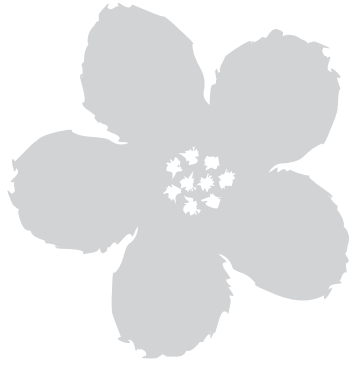
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## Agreement of the Formation of the Caribbean Network for Health-Promoting Schools

*Participant agreement on the establishment of the Caribbean Network of Health-Promoting Schools:*  
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# Agenda



## Saturday, 24 November

Arrival of PAHO/WHO staff

## Sunday, 25 November

Arrival of Participants

## Monday, 26 November

- 8:30 Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Ms. Veta Brown, CPC/PAHO  
Dr. Maria Teresa Cerqueira, PAHO/WHO  
(Presented by Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO)
- 9:15 Introductions of Participants  
Ms. Patricia Brandon, CPC/PAHO
- 9:35 Objectives, agenda, Expected Results, Meeting Methodology  
Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO
- 9:45 Schools and Health in the CARICOM Caribbean  
Ms. Patricia Brandon, CPC/PAHO
- 9:55 The Global WHO Initiative for School Health  
Mr. Charles Gollmar, WHO
- 10:15 The Health-Promoting Schools Initiative  
Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO
- 10:30 Refreshment break
- 11:00 Country Presentations  
***Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica***
- 11:30 Plenary discussion
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:30 Country Presentations  
***Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica***
- 14:00 Plenary discussion
- 14:30 Country Presentations  
***Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, St Vincent, and the Grenadines***
- 15:10 Plenary discussion
- 15:30 Refreshment break
- 16:00 Country Presentations  
***St. Kitts-Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago***
- 16:40 Plenary discussion

## Agenda

### Tuesday, 27 November

- 8:00 The Health-Promoting School Initiative in the Americas  
Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO
- 8:15 Status and trends of health education and health promotion within the school environment  
Dr. Benjamin Puertas
- 8:30 Methods and instruments for the surveillance of risk factors and practices of school age children and adolescents  
Mr. Charles Gollmar, WHO
- 8.45 Experiences of Health-Promoting Schools and Networks  
Dr. Benjamín Puertas: The Latin American Experience  
Prof. Antonio Saéz: The Spanish Experience  
Dr. Lourdes E. Soto de Laurido: The Puerto Rico Experience  
Eng. Leo Nederveen: The Loa Experience
- 10:00 Plenary Discussion
- 10:30 Refreshment break
- 11:00 Components for the formation of HPS Networks — Panel  
Dr. Benjamín Puertas  
Mr. Charles Gollmar, WHO  
Prof. Antonio Saéz  
Eng. Leo Nederveen
- 11:30 Plenary discussion
- 12:00 Rapid Assessment Tools (RAT) and Diagnostic Methods and Instruments  
Ms. Cheryl Vince Whitman, EDC
- 12:15 Plenary discussion
- 12:45 Lunch break
- 14:00 Proposal for the creation of Caribbean Network of Health-Promoting Schools and the gathering of baseline data (interests and benefits to countries in creating such a Network at this time, and possible priority areas for action)  
Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO  
Ms. Patricia Brandon, PAHO/CPC
- 14:30 Plenary discussion
- 15:00 Work groups to discuss the creation of the CNHPS and to elaborate proposal, principles, goals, terms of reference, structure, resources, and functions of the Secretariat. Selection of Moderators and Rapporteurs for each group

## Agenda

- 16:00 Refreshment break  
16:30 Plenary – presentation of preliminary proposals by work groups

### Wednesday, 28 November

- 8:15 Summary of preliminary proposals for the formation of the Caribbean Network of HPS  
Rapporteur Group I  
Rapporteur Group II  
Rapporteur Group III
- 8:45 Communication and interchange of information -Bulletin of the LANHPS  
Dr. Benjamín Puertas  
Prof. Antonio Saéz  
Eng. Leo Nederveen
- 9:00 Discussion by work groups (to elaborate the final proposal for the CNHPS, taking into account the comments of all participants)  
Preparation of summary document
- 10:30 Refreshment break
- 11:00 Discussion by work groups (to elaborate a Plan of Action to implement the proposal, interchange of materials and information, and the production of the bulletin of the CNHPS)  
Preparation of summary document
- 12:30 Lunch break
- 14:00 Work group discussions and integration for the Plan of Action for the CNHPS
- 15:00 Plenary – Presentation of terms of reference, organizational structure, goals, objectives, functions of the CNHPS, Letter of Intention, and plan of action for its development and maintenance
- 16:00 Refreshment break
- 16:15 Commitment of participating countries  
Signature of Letter of Intention
- 17:00 Closure of Meeting  
Dr. Josefa Ippolito-Shepherd, PAHO/WHO  
Ms. Veta Brown, CPC/PAHO

### Thursday, 29 November

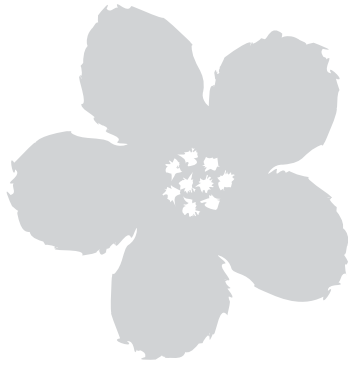
- Departure of participants  
Departure of PAHO/WHO staff



Pictures kindly provided by  
Ms. Cheryl Vince Whitman, EDC

PROCEEDINGS  
First Meeting and  
Creation of the  
Caribbean  
Network of  
Health-Promoting  
Schools





# Welcome and Opening Remarks

**Veta Brown**, *Caribbean Program Coordinator, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Office of Caribbean Program Coordination (CPC)*

**M**s. Veta Brown, Caribbean Program Coordinator for the Pan American Health Organization, welcomed the participants to the First Meeting and Creation of the Caribbean Network of Health-Promoting Schools and extended greetings from Sir George Alleyne, Director of PAHO. Ms. Brown emphasized that the Caribbean consists of a diverse group of countries characterized by multiple cultures and multiple languages, and that any Caribbean initiative must take this diversity into consideration. The challenge of this emerging network will be to identify those issues these countries share in common and can address collectively, relying on one another as resources in an ongoing effort to create Health-Promoting Schools.

Ms. Brown reminded the group of key questions and critical health issues that must continue to drive their efforts to promote health in the Caribbean: What are the determinants of health? How do we examine the environmental, political, and socioeconomic issues that affect the health of people in our countries? How will we address the impact of HIV/AIDS and drugs on the health of the population? Any work being done in Health-Promoting Schools must address these critical health issues.

Acknowledging the large workloads of these dedicated participants, Ms. Brown invited them to build upon the work they have already done through collaboration and coordination, thereby avoiding the need to “reinvent the wheel.” She also stressed the importance of building alliances and networks and including the many stakeholders in the process.

Ms. Brown concluded by encouraging the group to be very active participants in the process: “This cannot be an exercise for the sake of an exercise or for the purpose of producing a publication,” she urged. “Keep foremost in your mind the thoughts of how you will make a change once you return home.”