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Foreword

The UNDP/WORLD BANK/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) is a goal-oriented research and training programme with two interdependent objectives:

- research and development to obtain new and to improve existing tools for the control of major tropical diseases;
- strengthening of the research capability of tropical countries.

The research is conducted on a global basis by multidisciplinary Scientific Working Groups. The training and institution-strengthening activities are limited to the tropical countries where the diseases of concern are endemic.

Six groups of diseases have initially been selected for attack: malaria, schistosomiasis, the filariases (including onchocerciasis), the trypanosomiasis (both African sleeping sickness and the American form, Chagas' disease), the leishmaniasis and leprosy. Scientific Working Groups are also active in "trans-disease" areas: biological control of vectors, epidemiology, and social and economic research.

The present supplement contains the proceedings of a meeting of the TDR Scientific Working Group on schistosomiasis on «Prospects for immunological intervention in human schistosomiasis» held in Geneva in May 1986.

Scientists interested in participating in TDR are invited to write for further information to: Communications Officer, Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

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