

WHO's reasons for new and reemerging diseases

In an Oct. 16 press release announcing the creation of its new Division of Emerging Diseases, the World Health Organization (WHO) gave the following reasons for the spread of new and reemerging diseases:

Changes in lifestyle, including overcrowded cities where population growth has outpaced supplies of clean water and adequate housing; dramatic increases in national and international travel, whereby an individual traveler may be infected in one country and spread the disease to others before falling ill;

Deterioration of traditional public health activities such as surveillance and diagnostic laboratories needed to quickly recognize emerging problems;

Complacency, despite numerous warnings in recent years.

Analysis of regional problems

Africa: This continent is experiencing an increasing frequency of epidemics on a much larger scale. Cholera is now common in 36 African countries. Meningitis and bubonic plague are prevalent in many countries and bloody diarrhea is increasingly common. "New" diseases

such as Ebola virus and Lassa fever—a hemorrhagic fever with signs and outcomes similar to Ebola—are now appearing.

Asia: During the last decade, overcrowding, increasing urbanization, military conflict, natural disasters such as floods, and the overwhelming problem of poverty have all exacerbated the problems of communicable disease, especially in Southeast Asia. The region has high levels of polio, leprosy, and neo-natal tetanus. In 1992, a new strain of cholera emerged in India, along with the plague in 1994. High mortality rates are produced by acute respiratory infection, tuberculosis, and diarrheal diseases. Dengue, hemorrhagic fever, Japanese encephalitis, meningococcal meningitis, and HIV-AIDS are all increasing in Southeast Asia.

Latin America and the Caribbean: In 1991, cholera returned to the Western Hemisphere for the first time in the twentieth century, and the disease reached epidemic proportions, especially in Peru, where it affected at least 1 million people and caused \$500 million in financial losses. The epidemic is still increasing in certain areas of Central America, Brazil, and Peru. Reported cases of dengue fever are rapidly increasing, even in areas bordering on the southern United States. Yellow fever, affecting poor rural farmers in Peru particularly, plague, hemorrhagic fevers, hanta virus diseases, HIV-AIDS and malaria are all increasing threats in the region. Poverty and inequity causing major health differential between population groups make epidemic control especially difficult.

Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; and Rita Colwell, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The conference agenda was tightly controlled. Not a single speaker challenged any of the claims made during the conference, including that global warming and ozone depletion were proven theories. The audience was not allowed to ask any questions at the microphones. Only written questions were allowed, and these were carefully screened.

The tone of the conference was set by depopulation malthusians, and conducted on the implicit assumption that the ongoing economic collapse will not be reversed. Despite the fact that many of the speakers correctly pointed out the lack of monitoring and effective action against the rapid emergence of these deadly diseases, there was no discussion of how to eradicate them today. The discussion centered around how to stop these diseases from spreading into the United States and northern countries by stopping "climate change." There was not a single mention of the role of the IMF, debt service, or economic collapse in wrecking the public health infrastructure of the countries most affected by this biological

holocaust.

Furthermore, while some of the presentations detailed how "global warming" was going to allow the spread of disease-carrying mosquitoes into the United States, not one speaker mentioned that these mosquito populations have already spread as far north as Minnesota because of the collapse of mosquito-control measures, and because so many effective pesticides have been banned because of the environmentalists.

This anti-population outlook was most evident during the presentation of Brian Atwood, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development, who argued that the greatest threat to the world's climate was coming from developing countries whose energy consumption and carbon-dioxide emissions were increasing at the fastest rate because of their drive to industrialize.

British control over the "climate change" scare was clearly evident during the conference. The speaker who provided the overview of the claims that climate change will cause the unleashing of epidemics and other health effects, was Anthony McMichael, professor of epidemiology at the Lon-