

## 2. Basic Indicators and Pharmaceutical Data

2.1 The response of the countries to the questionnaire was prompt and encouraging. Forty out of 49 member countries and two associated countries returned the questionnaire completed with as much information as was available. For the purpose of this study, the basic indicators and pharmaceutical data have been put in order of the income levels of the countries as follows:

- (a) Low Income, GNP per head, less than US\$500
- (b) Lower Middle Income, GNP per head, between US\$500 and US\$1000
- (c) Upper Middle Income, GNP per head, over US\$1000
- (d) Industrialised (developed countries)

In order to assess the true pattern, on a national and regional basis, it was considered essential to estimate the drug requirements as well as the financial capability of the countries. In addition, therefore, to studying the population and health indicators, the total national budget (expenditure), health budget, the gross national product (GNP) etc. were also needed. The ratios between these parameters and their inter-relation were also considered important for drawing conclusions for regional co-operation in drug supply and/or the necessity of local pharmaceutical production.

2.2 A table giving basic health and pharmaceutical indicators is given in Annex 1. Three letters are shown in parentheses, '(A)' refers to data confirmed by 17 countries, '(B)' relates to information prepared from replies sent by 23 countries and '(C)' gives 9 countries from whom no information was received through the governments concerned and the data was collected from sources indicated in the references (Annex 6). In order to find out the year of a specific data, reference should be made to individual country profiles presented in Annex 4.

## 3. Inventory of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers

3.1 The replies to Part B of the questionnaire came from 30 developing countries which gave production data from 125 manufacturers. The names and addresses of these manufacturers together with the range of products e.g. antibiotics, vitamins, etc. and the dosage form e.g. tablets, injections etc. are presented in Annex 3. It appears that almost all the units are engaged in formulating finished dosage forms except a few units in the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Jamaica and Singapore which have primary production. The majority of the units are subsidiaries or joint enterprises with transnational companies. Sixty per cent of the manufacturing companies report a turnover of over US\$1 million each. The rest are mostly in the US\$100,000 turnover group. A few units produce injectable products, and antibiotics products are made by about 30 per cent of the