

**INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS RIGHTS AND HEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY  
THEMATIC HUB**

**REPORT OF MEETINGS WITH HUB MEMBERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS  
IN SALVADOR, BRAZIL**

As a hub coordinator, Walter Flores travelled to Salvador, Brazil during March 15-17 to meet up with a hub member Dr. Alex Shankland and with Dr. Armando de Negri, board member of the World Social Forum. This was also the week of the World Social Forum, so I attended a few sessions related to indigenous rights and transnational corporations and criminalization of indigenous social movements.

Dr. Shankland and Walter Flores co-authored an abstract for an organized session entitled: "Overcoming recognition, participation and accountability barriers to UHC for indigenous peoples: learning from Guatemala, Brazil and India". The abstract was submitted to the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Symposium in Health System Research. We were successful in having our abstract selected, so the meeting with Dr. Shankland was mainly to do a detailed planning of the session, including ideas for mobilizing resources to bring indigenous leaders to speak in our organized session. In addition, we also discussed the option for raising resources for an exchange visits between indigenous leaders from Brazil and Guatemala.

Dr. De Negri is an international expert in developing systems for emergency care, including transport. The purpose of the meeting with him was to present the work of the community defenders in Guatemala about the lack of adequate emergency system for rural indigenous communities. I also informed Dr. De Negri about our interest in planning a campaign in Guatemala to raise the issue of how poor emergency transport for rural indigenous populations reflects discrimination by public health authorities. I was interested in hearing his opinion about the situation in Guatemala and technical recommendations. Dr. de Negri showed interest in the work in Guatemala and said that the campaign may be presented as a human right concern. He also communicated his interest to visit Guatemala to transfer his experience and provide inputs to the campaign that is currently under development.

END OF THE REPORT