

Counsel, Office of the Secretary, regarding legal problems that arise in the operation of the programs.

(c) With other Federal departments. Extensive working relationships are maintained with other Federal departments or agencies, such as:

(1) Federal Housing Administration, Housing and Home Finance Agency, with which the Division develops joint policies regarding approval of applications for mortgage insurance for construction of privately owned nursing homes, the development of standards of design and construction, and for resolving mutual problems which may arise in the conduct of both the HHFA and Hill-Burton programs for assisting nursing home construction.

(2) U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Electrification Administration, with which the Division has occasional contacts regarding the availability of REA funds to pay for certain electrical equipment in rural hospitals.

(3) U.S. Department of Commerce, Area Redevelopment Administration, with which the Division works cooperatively in the development of policies and procedures governing the approval of hospital and other health facilities projects under the economic development program.

(4) Appalachian Regional Commission, with which the Division works cooperatively in the development of mutually acceptable policies and procedures governing the approval of health facility and mental retardation facility projects under sections 202 and 214 of Public Law 89-4, which authorizes aid for the construction and operation of certain health facilities in the Appalachian region.

(5) Veterans' Administration, with which the Division cooperates to achieve mutually agreeable design criteria for constructing hospitals and other medical facilities.

(d) With State governments. The Division, through its regional and central office staff, provides continuous guidance and guideline to the 54 State agencies which administer the Hill-Burton program. Division staff participates actively in all regional and national meetings of the agencies. Upon inauguration of new regulations or procedures, orientation sessions are held with State agency personnel.

(f) With foreign governments. Relationships with representatives of foreign governments are of two types. First, frequent visits are made to the Division by representatives of other governments for the purpose of obtaining firsthand information as to how the program operates and the criteria, standards, and working relationships which have been established with States, communities, and sponsors of hospital projects. Second, the minimum standards of design and construction and guide material issued pertaining to these facets of the program are frequently requested by foreign governments. Indeed, foreign governments have translated one publication, Design and Construction of General Hospitals, into approximately 20 different languages.

(g) With nonprofit organizations. Close relationships exist between the Division and a wide variety of professional associations which are concerned with the design, construction, equipping, and operation of health facilities, as well as with the planning for such facilities. Division activities with these associations include the cosponsoring of