



Madrid, October 16, 2008. Ernest Lluch's Assembly Room of the Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs.

ROUND-TABLE 1: ON HEALTH MATTERS, HOW ARE WE? The health surveys

COMMUNICATION 3: *The health surveys of the Autonomous Communities*

SPEAKER: Ricard Tresserras Gaju. Health Department. Cataluña

SUMMARY

The health surveys are sources of general information about the health status of the population and their receipts. They provide data impossible of getting with other measures and nowadays they are crucial for evaluation of health policies as well as other systematic and non-systematic.

Among the aims the health surveys have, surely the most important one is that of the attendance to the decision-taking having in account, with epidemiological data, related aspects to receipts and assessments of the citizens.

At least 11 AACC have done one or several health surveys and from 1987, 6 national surveys have been made. In the present context is reasonable to think about the need of making health surveys in a regional context, or else, national surveys with broader samples. In the communication, the different roles of each one of the surveys will be brought up, themes like the number and types of survey needed and some of their technical features will be discussed. The point that the surveys of different territorial contexts are complementary and that both kinds are useful and convenient will be defended too. It's not so a matter of whether doing a national or a regional survey but which kind of survey can provide an answer to the planned information objectives.