

Progress Report

Delhi Declaration on Avian Influenza

(24th March, 2007 to 14th May, 2007)

The progress made, recommendation-wise, on Delhi Declaration since last meeting of the Task Force (held on 23rd March, 2007) is as under:

Recommendation: 1 Develop a framework within which countries could build specific strategies for prevention and control of avian Influenza and to be prepared for pandemic influenza threat.

- Progress report communicated to H.E. Health / Agriculture/ Live stock Ministers who participated in the Conference.
- NIPPP and IHR Assessment completed for **three** more countries (Bangladesh; Indonesia; Thailand)
- DPR Korea (28 May-1 June) and India yet to be assessed.
- Regional framework can be used for national adaptation

Recommendation: 2 Define uniform standards and monitor their implementation for reducing the risk of HPAI infection to humans by appropriate control measures.

- The following guidelines are being prepared:
 - Guidelines on AI surveillance and outbreak response
 - Guidelines for case management of avian influenza
 - Guidelines for the laboratory diagnosis of avian influenza in SEAR countries
 - Guidelines for Risk Communication
- Concept paper on FETP.

Recommendation: 3 Share available knowledge and expertise and also take leadership in surveillance and outbreak investigation, laboratory support, risk communication and research.

- An agreement was signed on 4 April 2007 between MOH, Government of India, and WHO formalizing establishment of a Regional Sub-unit for Communicable Diseases Surveillance and Response (CSR) at the NICD, Delhi.
- Technical and logistic support provided to Bangladesh for AI outbreak.
- International training on Rapid Containment of AI / PI held in Cambodia from 26-29 March, 2007. Participants from Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal and Thailand, took part.

- Regional meeting to review progress on IHR implementation held at Maldives from 23rd to 25th April, 2007. All countries of the region except DPR Korea participated. The review concluded with a number of recommendations for the member countries and WHO on human resource development, strengthening of surveillance and outbreak response, laboratory support, strengthening of ports/airports and resource mobilization.
- Training on use of the decision instrument, annex 2 of IHR (2005) held in Maldives on 25 April 2007 for participants from Maldives.
- TTX workshops for AI/PI Pandemic Preparedness conducted in Nepal, Male and Bangladesh. TTX planned for Bhutan in 1st week of July, 2007
- Sub National TTX workshop On AI preparedness planned for India at Ahmedabad (June 2007)
- Meeting of the National influenza centres in the Western Pacific and South East Asia held at Melbourne, Australia (1-4 May, 2007). The meeting reviewed the current situation of AI surveillance, discussed the role and responsibilities of NICs and took steps to develop guidance on setting up of an Influenza Surveillance System.
- To increase Pandemic Vaccine production surge capacity, WHO is supporting six vaccine manufacturers, three of which are in SEARO region (India, Indonesia, Thailand).
- National influenza surveillance centers / apex laboratories in Indonesia, India and Thailand are being assessed to strengthen them in a phased manner to qualify as a reference laboratory.
- Regional Task force for Research on AI constituted.

Recommendation: 4 Intensify efforts to make sufficient resources available to address this public health threat.

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is funding joint WPR/SEAR Project to implement Asia Pacific strategy work plan under Canada-Asia Regional Emerging Infectious Diseases (CAREID) Project to support activities in Indonesia and Timor-este (\$ 2,335,000) for four years(2007-10).