



## Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance (MBDS) Cooperation

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### MBDS Executive Board Meeting

August 13, 2009

Kunming, Yunnan, China

#### Attendees:

#### MBDS Member Countries:

Cambodia	Prof. Sann Chan Soeung, Executive Board Dr. Sok Touch, Country Coordinator Dr. Seng Heng, Lab Coordinator
China	Dr. Wang Liying, Central Executive Board (Chair) Ms. Lu Guoping, Central Country Coordinator Mr. Hu Shoujing, Director of Disease Control Dr. Wang Kui, Deputy Director, Foreign Affair Office Dr. Yang Jun Dr. Cheng Chun, Yunnan Coordinator Dr. Gong Xue Lin Dr. Li Qiongfeng, Director Dr. Li Huiyang, Representative for EB
Lao PDR	Dr. Sibounhom ARCHKHAWONGS, Representative for EB (Co-Chair) Dr. Mahanakhone Souriya Dr. Dalouny Phonekeo, Lab Coordinator
Myanmar	Prof. Saw Lwin, Executive Board Dr. Win Thein, Deputy Director
Thailand	Dr. Kumnuan Ungchusak, Executive Board Dr. Preecha Prempre, Country Coordinator Mrs. Pamornrat Asavasena, Coordinator for XB Collaboration
Vietnam	Dr. Nguyen Dang Vung, Representative for EB

Development Partners:

NTI/GHSI	Dr. Terence Taylor
RF	Dr. Mushtaque R. Chowdhury
InSTEDD	Dr. Dennis Israelski
RAND	Dr. Melinda Moore
	Dr. David J. Dausey
MBDS Office	Dr. Moe Ko Oo
	Ms. Nattanun Siridiraseth
	Ms. Hnin Pwint Phyu

## **Executive Summary**

### **MBDS EB Meeting (13 August 2009)**

Executive Board members and Country Coordinators or their representatives from all six MBDS countries participated in the meeting, along with the MBDS Coordinating Office and observers from a number of development and technical partner organizations.

#### **Opening Session**

The Executive Board meeting commenced with remarks from Prof. Sann Chan Soeung, Executive Board Chair from Cambodia, who described progress in each strategy area over the past year and noted his overall satisfaction with progress made. He then handed over the Executive Board chairmanship to China's Dr. Wang Liyang. Dr. Wang reviewed the proposed agenda, made modifications to it, and then solicited and obtained endorsement by Executive Board members.

#### **Report from the Regional Forum**

China Country Coordinator Ms. Lu Guoping presented a comprehensive report from the Regional Forum, held August 10-11 in Kunming, China (see annex for full report). She described four main items:

- Follow-up from the special CC meeting in Vientiane (June 2009)
- Detailed progress reports from countries, by strategy, using the new MBDS monitoring indicators
- Results of a special study of early MBDS country responses to novel influenza A/H1N1, conducted by CCs in June-July 2009
- Other presentations from the Regional Forum (from Guangxi Province, Global Health and Security Initiative [NTI], Google and INSTEDD)

#### **Report from the MBDS Coordinating Office**

Dr. Moe Ko Oo, MBDS Coordinator, presented a comprehensive report on activities of the MBDS Coordinating Office over the past year and the status of information sharing from each of the cross-border sites from January-July 2009 (see annex for full report).

#### **Sharing of country experiences**

Dr. Li Qiongfeng of Yunnan CDC presented a report on response to emergency public health events in Yunnan Province, describing the system for surveillance and response to a broad range of emergency events (see annex for full report).

Dr. Kumnuan Ungchusak, Executive Board member from Thailand then presented lessons learned from Thailand's experience to date in responding to the new influenza A/H1N1 pandemic. He described lessons learned in the areas of surveillance, communications with other countries, relations with the media, and crisis management and encouraged other MBDS countries to also learn from what he described as Thailand's shortcomings in these areas (see annex for full report).

## **General discussion**

The general discussion focused mainly on MBDS strategic and operational planning, and how to proceed for the coming years. Participants offered their views with regard to what a Master/Strategic Plan and Operational/Implementation Plans should include and the time frames for future plans. Some key points of agreement included:

- The purposes of Master and Operational Plans should be specified for purposes of clarity and consistency
- Master Plan should be comprehensive and should drive Operational Plans for activities at the country and regional levels
- MBDS planning should be consistent with and integrated into overall country plans and should be linked to relevant international initiatives, e.g., ASEAN, WHO
- Master Plan should be used to solicit support from development partners (and thus should potentially include notional budget, at least for specified operational planning period)
- Members should determine how to best link a single longer-term Master Plan with multiple shorter-term Operational Plans, e.g., within a single document or in separate documents
- Operational Plan budgets should include regional and country activities
  - Country budgets should be based on standardized unit costs, e.g., for management, central level activities and each cross-border site
  - Budgets should be for funding needed to implement the plan during specified operational period and should be presented to funding partners in terms of gaps (what is already covered by government or other external partners and what remains unfunded)
- A new Master Plan should be developed for 2011-2016, and Operational Plans should be developed for the first 2-year operational period 2011-2012 with technical assistance from Dr. Melinda Moore, RAND Corporation.

Additional points raised:

- Progress as reported by China CC may be incomplete because several countries may not have reported fully yet on all indicators
- The MBDS newsletter should be actively distributed to the MBDS community as well as being posted on the MBDS website

## **MBDS Executive Board and Country Coordinator discussion of upcoming meetings**

Lao PDR offered to host the next Regional Forum and Executive Board meeting in Lung Prabang, in August 2010. The next Country Coordinator meeting will be in Beijing in late February or early March 2010.

With the agenda items completed, Dr. Wang Liyang declared the Executive Meeting adjourned at 12:30.