

## Concept Note

### The GHSA Activities for Workforce Development

13-15 March 2018, Arnoma Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

#### Background

The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) aims to strengthen both the global and national capacity to prevent, detect and respond to human and animal infectious diseases threats through a multilateral and multi-sectoral approach. Taking the role of a leading country for two crucial GHSA action packages, including Detect 1 National Laboratory System and Detect 5 Workforce Development, Thailand has been working closely with countries in the Asia Pacific Region, and leading and contributing countries of the respective action packages since 2015.

The tremendous collaborative efforts on workforce development actualized the initial roadmap on regional collaboration, and the Regional Strategic Framework for Public Health Workforce Development and Systems Strengthening on Epidemiology (2016-2020). The vision of the regional strategic framework is for the countries to have sufficient and competent workforce development, and systems strengthening in epidemiology in order to effectively and sustainably prevent, detect and respond to public health threats in the region. Furthermore, the formal collaboration between animal and public health epidemiology networks was kindled among ASEAN plus three countries in 2016, and the second consultative meeting in 2018 conceptualized the multifaceted activities to be executed in next two years.

In accordance with the GHSA 2017 Kampala Declaration, the GHSA Steering Group is working to develop a framework for the next five years, termed "GHSA 2024." The GHSA 2024 framework provides a high-level view of the context for the goals and objectives in 2019-2024 and an outline to operate and track progress towards the goals.

In light of serving the purposes of the GHSA 2024 as well as expediting the epidemiological workforce development towards global health security, "*The GHSA Meeting on the Progress & Ways forward for the Regional Strategic Frameworks in Animal & Human Health on Workforce Development*" will be held on 13-15 March 2019 for two and half days.

Moreover, implementation of the workforce development strategy and plan is one of the main action items in the GHSA workforce development action package. While the surveys from the previous meetings revealed that the national strategic plan for workforce development in epidemiology is not enforced for most of the countries in the regions, "*the GHSA Workshop on Strategic Plan for Workforce Development*" will be organized on 15 March 2019 for half day in order to galvanize the development of the national strategic plan for workforce development in the countries.

Both the aforementioned activities will be convened by the Department of Disease Control under the Ministry of Public Health, in close collaboration with the Department of Livestock Development under the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand. The Thailand GHSA Regional Coordinating Office affiliated under the Bureau of Epidemiology will act as a secretariat. The activities will be achieved through the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC).

#### Objectives

1. To summarize the progress of action items under the Workforce Development Action Package based on the Regional Strategic Framework for Public Health Workforce Development and Systems Strengthening on Epidemiology
2. To share experiences from effective implementation of workforce development

3. To explore on the direction for the workforce development action package (2020-2024) and the future collaboration
4. To expedite the development of the national strategic plan for workforce development in the countries

### Meeting Arrangement

Date: 13-15 March 2018

Location: Arnoma Grand Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

### Invited Participants

No.	Type	Details	Persons invited
1.	ASEAN plus Three 13 countries	Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam  2 national focal points in animal and human health responsible for epidemiology capacity building from each country	26
2.	Additional SEARO 8 countries	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste  2 from each country, including IHR focal points from WHO and chief veterinary officer (CVO) focal points from FAO	16
3.	GHSA Chair	Netherlands	1
4.	Leading country	Jordan	1
5.	Contributing 9 countries	Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Finland, Mongolia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, United States, Yemen  1 GHSA focal points from each country	9
6.	ASEAN Secretariat	Animal and human health	2
7.	Development partners	AFENET, FAO, OIE, PSRT, SEAOHUN, TUC, USAID, US CDC, World Bank, WHO	10
8.	Thailand	Department of Livestock Development, Department of Medical Science, Department of Disease Control	25
	Total		90

### Expected Outcomes

The progress of workforce development action package following the specified action items and the regional framework for public health epidemiology workforce will be encapsulated for the initial phase in 2015-2018.

The target, desired impacts, roles of the countries for the workforce development action package will be reviewed for 2020-2024 and the collaborative direction for the workforce development will be prompted.

The collaborative mechanisms will be excerpted, along with the defined direction for collaborative activities in the next five years.

The results of the GHSA meeting will be reported to the GHSA Chair and Steering Group, and presented in the upcoming GHSA Ministerial Meeting during 2019.

The information and materials introduced in the GHSA workshop on strategic planning for workforce development will be pivotal and felicitous in generating the national strategic plans or refining the existing plans in the countries.

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