Dear MBDS Colleagues,

The MBDS (Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance) cooperation is a self-organized regional network commenced since 2001. It is a collaboration effort among six Mekong Basin countries: Cambodia, China, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam under The Health Ministerial MOU. It aims to strengthen national and regional capabilities in infectious disease surveillance, inter-regional collaboration, outbreak response and information sharing for rapidly and effectively control Public Health Threat.

Recent Update

Under the Canada’s Global Partnership Program (Canada’s GPP), the Communicable Disease Control, Ministry of Health Cambodia is follow up meeting with IT experts for development of MBDS Event Base Surveillance Application Real Time Reporting. Cambodia is taking responsibility for development of this real time One Health reporting application for Mekong region. During the meeting they are discussed about the development process for other Mekong countries, challenges and system architecture for data sharing with stakeholders.

Under the Canada’s Global Partnership Program (Canada’s GPP), the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), Ministry of Health, Vietnam is developing “The Need of EQA Service and Strengthening the Quality of Laboratories Medical Testing in Mekong Region” survey report. This document has included laboratory related testing capacity, physical facilities, equipment, human resources, and epidemic response from Mekong countries. The information from this document can be used as references for continuous improvement plan and advocacy purposes, especially for developing countries and this document will be uploaded in the MBDS website.

Mr. Narin Suriyon, MBDS Cross Border Coordinator from Chiang Rai Provincial Health Office, Thailand has participated in “The meeting for Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases in the Migrant Community” which is organized in Chiang Rai Province during 1, 8 and 15 August 2021.

24 August 2021: 20 years experiences of MBDS multi-sectoral regional collaboration, capacity strengthening and real time event based surveillance information reporting mechanism are shared with one consultant, who is exploring for initiating “Centre for Biodiversity” in one of the South East Asia countries. Lessons learned and provided information from MBDS may foster the setting up of that initiative in near future.

27 August 2021: MBDS Foundation Secretariat is discussed with Office of International Cooperation (OIC), Thailand Ministry of Public Health, Thailand Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, France. They are interested in exploring partnership in the field of epidemiology and in improving the information related to Global Health Safety (GHS) and Biodefense.

2 September 2021: MBDS Foundation Secretariat is meeting with representatives from Public Health England (PHE). PHE has shared their activities related with Global Health Security (GHS) activities and project on IHR Strengthening. MBDS has also expressed about brief history of MBDS, collaboration mechanism and current regional activities. Regional coordination, stakeholders involvement, areas of interest in Public Health and future collaboration are also discussed during the meeting.

MBDS is regularly updating regional alerts related to public health events including COVID-19 situation, progress of vaccination, measures and information related with public awareness. These regional alerts are available in the MBDS website.

Sincerely yours,

MBDS Foundation Secretariat

MBDS Regional Activities

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Useful Links

MBDS has been speaking with local (Chheng Sokhouyen / National, Health Reform Unit), Local Health Management, Research Links, Global Public Health Links and Official Link for MBDS

Previously, MBDS Foundation Secretariat

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Photo credit to Mr. Sok Samnang, MBDS Country Coordinator from MOH Cambodia

Credit to the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), Ministry of Health, Vietnam

Photo credit to Mr. Narin Suriyon, MBDS XB Coordinator from Chiang Rai Province, Thailand