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 rapid and effective control of Public Health Threat.

Beginning of 2022, Thailand Ministry of Public Health is Chair of MBDS to continue MBDS collaborative efforts to strengthen national and regional capabilities in infectious disease surveillance, inter-regional collaboration, outbreak response and information sharing for rapid and effective control of Public Health Threat. Dr. Sopon Iamsirithaworn, Deputy Director General, Department of Disease Control (DDC), MBDS Executive Board from Thailand is Chair of MBDS and Dr. Chakrarat Pittayawonganon, Director of Epidemiology Division, Dr. Vichan Pawan, Director of Communicable Disease Division and Dr. Soawapak Hinjoy, Director of the Office of International Cooperation, Department of Disease Control (DDC) are leading Country Coordinators for the MBDS.

Last year, MBDS celebrates 20th years of its existence in public health arena. MBDS Secretariat has prepared the MBDS activities at the Glance for the period 1999 – 2021 in short video. MBDS would like to express appreciation and gratitude to all development partners and stakeholders for all of tremendous support throughout MBDS activities. The video is uploaded in MBDS YouTube channel.

The “MBDS-EBS Regional Collaborative One Health Mobile Application” has been developed to detect early warning and real-time reporting among MBDS countries with support from Canada’s Weapons Threat Reduction Program for Cambodia, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, Vietnam and Rockefeller Foundation for Thailand. This application design & contents for public health professional with user friendly purpose with data security for reporting of human, animal and environmental related public health events as well as Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). Technology requirement, server set up, training, information analysis, integrated process, data sharing and technology transfer to CLMVT countries are under process. Currently Cambodia and Thailand cross border provinces are reporting real time events based surveillance information using “MBDS-EBS Regional Collaborative One Health Mobile Application”. This application in Cambodia, Lao P.D.R, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam languages are available in Play Store.

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 MBDS webpage.

Sincerely yours,

MBDS Foundation Secretariat