THAILAND SUCCESSFULLY HOSTED THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP: ENHANCING REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP TOWARDS STRENGTHENING LABORATORY SYSTEM IN ACCELERATING GHSA’S IMPLEMENTATION:

DETECT 1: 27-29 JULY 2016, BANGKOK

During 27-29 July 2016, an international workshop on Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA): Detect – 1 [National Laboratory System] was held at Berkeley Hotel in Bangkok. The three – day regional workshop was hosted by the Ministry of Public Health Thailand, through the Department of Medical Sciences, in collaboration with USAID and FAO.

More than a hundred delegations from USA, South Africa and Thailand as lead countries of GHSA; as well as contributing countries and international development partners (See the list attached); and Indonesia as the Chair of GHSA Steering Committee were gathered to discuss on “facing health threats globally – happens anywhere but everywhere” - and how nations can hold hands for real – time detection of dangerous pathogens more effectively.

The Workshop has reached the expectations as highlighted below;

1. **Updating and sharing** on the progress of Laboratory Strengthening System (LSS) from participating countries;

2. **Supporting the utilization** of the Regional Strategic Roadmap on Laboratory System Strengthening

3. **Discussion and agreement** on proposed regional activities to be implemented; such as:
   a) Bioengineering Training, External Quality Assurance programme (EQA);
   b) External Quality Assurance
   c) Sharing experiences on Lab preparedness,
   d) Bioinformatics network, Specimen referral system;
   e) Regional workshop to share 4-way linking experiences;
   f) Workshop on QA experience, supply chain management, specimen collection and transport, perform laboratory assessments
During the workshop, the Face-to-Face Meeting, a session to intensify joint collaborative efforts of the lead countries and contributing countries, was also conducted. The GHSA is seen as a promising platform to leverage and maximize the existing efforts of countries and partners. Communication between public health and animal health, coordination for partnership, and networking the network were also underscored to further avoid duplication and parallel efforts.

Launched in 2014 to promote global health security as an international security priority, GHSA aims to enhance and complement the implementation of the International Health Regulations 2005 through 11 Action Packages. Among others, Thailand takes leadership on the two Actions Packages including “Detect 1 : National Laboratory System Strengthening” and “Detect 5 : Workforce Development”.

Contacted Person: Mr. Kanate Temtrirath
Department of Medical Sciences,
Ministry of Public Health,
Tel: 02 589 0022, 02 951 000,
E-mail: kanate.t@dmsc.mail.go.th

List of participating countries and organizations

Lead countries
South Africa
Thailand
USA

Contributing countries
Canada
Georgia
Japan
Switzerland

Contributing International Organizations
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
World Health Organization
WHO Western Pacific Region (WPRO)

Participating Countries
[Asia Pacific including ASEAN and South Asia Association Countries (SAARC)]
Bhutan
Cambodia
Indonesia
Lao PDR
Malaysia
Myanmar
Nepal
Sri Lanka
Timor Leste
Viet Nam

Others International Development Partners
Thailand MOPH-U.S. CDC Collaboration (TUC)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS)
Mekong Basin Disease Surveillance (MBDS)
National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH)
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)