

Animal and Human Health Collaboration in ASEAN

The 1st Joint Consultative Meeting between ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group
and
ASEAN plus three Field Epidemiology Training Network (ASEAN + 3 FETN)

16 – 18 August 2016, Da Nang, Viet Nam

BACKGROUND

Epidemiology is a fundamental discipline underpinning capacities to prevent, identify, and respond to public health threats. Epidemiology has provided a foundation to allow us to identify a pathogen when it introduces, detects outbreaks to minimize their spread, and provide us with information to formulate appropriate actions and strategies for disease control in various situations.

The ASEAN Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF), in 2013, endorsed the Regional Strategic Framework for Veterinary Epidemiology Capacity Development and Networking in ASEAN (Epi Framework). The Epi Framework also necessitates the establishment of the ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group (AVEG) to support the implementation and to monitor the progress of Epi Framework, and to facilitate relevant cooperation among the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and between AMS and its partners. The establishment of AVEG and its terms of reference were supported by the Special Senior Official Meeting of the 34th AMAF in Lao PDR in 2013.

Parallel to the development in the ASEAN livestock sector, efforts have been made to strengthen human health epidemiology capacity. The ASEAN plus 3 Field Epidemiology Training Network (ASEAN + 3 FETN) was established in 2011. While established as a training network, the ASEAN + 3 FETN also tackles broader issues relevant to epidemiology of infectious diseases, zoonoses, and emergency responses as evident in the FETN strategies.

It was reported that of the 1,461 diseases now recognized in humans, approximately 60% are due to multi-host pathogens; and, over the last three decades, approximately 75% of new emerging human infectious diseases have been zoonotic¹. A multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral approach, a.k.a. One Health approach, is increasingly being adopted as a way to address common concerns on zoonotic diseases. While a more holistic, open-mindedness approach is considered, recent attention has been placed to strengthen collaboration between animal and human health as the main sectors currently responsible for health concerns.

As above-mentioned, networks of animal health and human health professionals on epidemiology exist within ASEAN mechanisms. Collaboration at interface among them varies depending on stages of development and natures of existing mechanisms, which are rather different between sectors. Recognizing the importance, ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL) and ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Disease (AEGCD) agreed to support the organization of the 1st AVEG – ASEAN+3 FETN meeting in Viet Nam to strengthen the collaboration and to advance the global health security through multi-disciplinary approach.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The overall objective is to strengthen ASEAN capacity to prevent, response, and mitigate public health threats that negatively affect human and animal health, as well as livelihoods and economy of ASEAN and its peoples.

¹Taylor LH, Latham SM, Woolhouse ME. Risk factors for human disease emergence. Philos Trans R SocLond B Biol Sci. 2001 Jul 29; 356(1411): 983–989.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The meeting aims to;

- Facilitate dialogue between the AVEG and the ASEAN + 3 FETN,
- Determine practical and appropriate mechanisms for collaboration, and
- Identify areas of common interests, and formulating activities to further strengthening collaboration based on such interests, which may include joint field surveillance and investigation of selected priority diseases.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

At the end of the Consultation Meeting, the expected outputs are as follows:

1. A draft summary report outlining:
 - i) Summary of zoonotic disease situation at global, regional and national levels;
 - ii) Past efforts and initiatives on animal-human health collaboration in addressing zoonotic diseases at the regional level;
 - iii) Progress in the development of epidemiology capacity in animal and human health sectors;
2. A set of key recommendations in improving and strengthening animal-human health collaboration on epidemiology capacity development in ASEAN; and
3. A plan of actions.

DATE AND VENUE

The meeting will be held between 16 and 18 August 2016 in Da Nang, Viet Nam.

PARTICIPANTS

Approximate 52 participants will attend the meeting, including;

- AVEG and ASEAN+3 FETN Members from ASEAN Member States, China, Republic of Korea, and Japan – 23 participants
- Representatives from Dialogue Partner – 3 participants
- ASEAN Secretariat – 2 participants
- ASEAN Regional Support Unit – 2 participants
- ASEAN Plus Three FETN Coordinating Office– 2 participants
- Representatives from Development Partners – 10 participants
- Observers – 10 participants

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Funding to support the organization of the meeting will be provided on the cost-sharing basis by the Royal Government of Thailand and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The hosting country, Viet Nam, will also provide in-kind contribution.

DRAFT AGENDA

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15 August 2016 – arrival of participants

Date/time	Agenda	Note
Day 1: 16 August 2016 – Setting the scene and groundbreaking		
09:00 – 09:30	<input type="checkbox"/> Opening Remarks <input type="checkbox"/> Self- Introduction <input type="checkbox"/> Objectives and expected outputs of the Meeting	Host & Chairpersons of AVEG (Viet Nam) & ASEAN+3 FETN (Indonesia)
09:30 – 10:00	Existing Frameworks/Mandates on ASEAN cooperation on A-H Health: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brief Global and Regional Outlook of Zoonotic Diseases (15 minutes)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brief Presentations on ASEAN Cooperation on Animal Health and Human Health: Existing frameworks, mandates, and outputs from relevant regional avenues/platforms (15 minutes)</i>	Session Chair: ASEAN+3 FETN Chairperson (Indonesia)
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break & Photo Session	
10:30 – 11:30	Current development and progress on epidemiology capacity development in ASEAN <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brief presentation on development and progress of epidemiology capacity development in animal health sector of ASEAN (20 minutes)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brief presentation on development and progress of epidemiology capacity development in human health sector of ASEAN (20 minutes)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Q/A Session (20 minutes)</i>	
11:30 – 12:30	Panel Discussion on Efforts/Initiatives on epidemiology of relevant Development Partners, focusing on strengthening animal-human health collaboration: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>FAO</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>OIE</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>WHO</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Others ---</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Q/A Session (10 minutes each)</i>	
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 15:00	Group discussion <input type="checkbox"/> <i>GROUP 1: Mechanism for collaboration</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>GROUP 2: Areas of common interest and possible joint activities</i>	
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break	
15:30 – 16:00	Brainstorming and key messages <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Presentations on outputs from group</i>	

Date/time	Agenda	Note
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plenary Q/A <input type="checkbox"/> Key items for further consideration by AVEG and ASEAN+3 FETN	
17:00 – 18:00	Networking session	
18:00 – 21:00	Welcome reception	
Day 2: 17 August 2016 – Internal AVEG meeting and internal ASEAN+3 FETN meeting to consider key items of Day 1 and other matters		
09:00 – 17:00	<i>Special Session of the 4th AVEG Meeting And Special Session of the 7th ASEAN+3 FETN Meeting</i>	
Day 3: 18 August 2016 – Resume joint meeting		
09:00 – 10:30	Plenary Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation on relevant decisions and key issues arising from Day 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion to identify common positions <input type="checkbox"/> Develop plan of actions	Session Chair: AVEG Chairperson (Viet Nam)
10:30 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 12:30	Adoption of meeting summary and recommendations	
12:30 – 12:40	Closing remarks	ASEAN+3 FETN Chairperson (Indonesia) AVEG Chairperson (Viet Nam)
12:40 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 18:00	Field trip	