

THIRD REGIONAL FORUM OF WHO COLLABORATING CENTRES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC



22–23 November 2018
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam



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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC

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MEETING REPORT

REPORT OF THE THIRD REGIONAL FORUM
OF WHO COLLABORATING CENTRES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC

Convened by:

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
22–23 November 2018

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NOTE

The views expressed in this report are those of the participants of the Third Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the conveners.

This report has been prepared by the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific for Member States in the Region and for those who participated in the Third Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam from 22 to 23 November 2018.

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KEYWORDS:

Intersectoral collaboration / International cooperation / Technical cooperation

ABBREVIATIONS

APSED III	Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies
GPW	General Programme of Work
NCD	noncommunicable disease
PICs	Pacific island countries and areas
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TB	tuberculosis
UHC	universal health coverage
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO CC	WHO Collaborating Centre

SUMMARY

World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating centres are instrumental partners that provide strategic support in implementing WHO's mandate and programmes and in developing and strengthening institutional capacity in countries and regions. Two previous Regional Forums of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific were held in 2014 and 2016, respectively, to share experiences and discuss alignment of collaborating centres' work and WHO priorities. Building on the success of the previous forums, the Third Regional Forum was convened on 22–23 November 2018, bringing together 227 participants from 140 collaborating centres across nine countries, in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam.

The Third Regional Forum provided participants with opportunities to share good practices, strengthen and promote innovative collaboration and networking mechanisms among collaborating centres, as well as identify opportunities to maximize contribution towards WHO support at the country level. Participants gained a better understanding of WHO's strategic programmes and frameworks by actively participating in the programmes designed to maximize interactions, consisting of technical sessions, presentations by collaborating centres, four country perspectives, posters display and six field visits to local health organizations.

The Forum noted significant progress made since the first two forums. WHO and collaborating centres have worked together more effectively and with better aligned priorities. Collaborating centres have also developed relationships with each other. Many have become more involved in providing support at the country level, playing a critical role in supporting WHO's work in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Optimizing collaborating centres' contribution in delivering effective country support requires the right country support to meet country needs in the right context, at the right time and with the right approach. Right country support should be a joint effort of WHO, collaborating centres and Member States, coordinated by WHO through a sound communication and coordination process.

The Forum reaffirmed the critical role of collaborating centres in making an impact at the country level and proposed the "Three Cs" (communication, consultation and collaboration) platforms as a measure to regularly monitor and evaluate the collaboration between WHO and collaborating centres. It was also suggested that WHO and collaborating centres should strengthen their "story-telling" by sharing the experience and expertise of collaborating centres for best practice and resource mobilization and to help "match" collaborating centre expertise to the priorities and the needs of countries.

The Forum concluded with remarks by the WHO Regional Director and endorsement of the 2018 Outcome Statement as well as an agreement to convene the Fourth and Fifth Regional Forums of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific in 2020 and 2022, respectively, to further strengthen and evaluate innovative collaboration to "promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable".

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Meeting organization

World Health Organization collaborating centres (WHO CCs) are instrumental partners that provide strategic support in implementing WHO's mandate and programmes, and in developing and strengthening institutional capacity in countries and regions. Built on the success of the previous forums, which were held in 2014 and 2016, respectively, the Third Regional Forum brought together 227 participants from 140 collaborating centres across nine countries, in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam on 22–23 November 2018. The participants shared experiences, discussed ideas and networked by actively participating in the programmes designed to maximize interactions, consisting of technical topics, country perspectives and six field visits.

1.2 Meeting objectives

The objectives of the meeting were:

- 1) to share good practices and reflect on progress since the second forum in 2016;
- 2) to strengthen and promote innovative collaboration and networking mechanisms; and
- 3) to identify opportunities to maximize contribution of WHO CCs towards WHO support at the country level.

1.3 Forum organization

The Forum was convened by the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific in collaboration with the WHO country office. This marked the first time that the Regional Forum was organized outside Manila, Philippines. This was also the first time that heads of WHO country offices participated in the Forum in person. The programmes were designed to encourage engagement and consisted of technical topics, country perspectives and field visits to six local health-care facilities, which aimed to further enrich participants' understanding of country needs and priorities at the facility level. This was the first time that field visits were included in the programme. Highlights included homages to Dr Shin Young-soo, who initiated and presided over the past two forums, and this third Forum would be his last as WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific. The Forum congratulated the incoming Regional Director, Dr Takeshi Kasai, whose term would start in February 2019. The Forum also welcomed eminent expert, Dr Margaret Chan, President of the Boao Forum for Asia Global Health Forum. The WHO CC Forum agenda and detailed programme are available in Annex 1.

1.4 Forum participants

The Forum brought together 227 representatives from 140 collaborating centres from nine countries (Australia, China, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Viet Nam). The WHO Secretariat was represented by the Regional Director, heads of WHO country offices in Cambodia, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Viet Nam, as well as the WHO Representative to the South Pacific/Director for Pacific Technical Support, directors of the technical and administrative divisions, executive officers of the Country Support Unit and the Office of the Regional Director, the core organizing committee, and selected WHO responsible officers for the collaborating centres. Two staff members from WHO headquarters were also present. A list of participants and WHO Secretariat is available in Annex 2.

2. PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Opening session

Facilitated by Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Director of Programme Management, the session began with welcome remarks by the Minister of Health Viet Nam, Associate Professor Dr Nguyen Thi Kim Tien. In his opening address, Dr Shin Young-soo, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific, reflected on health gains and challenges in the Western Pacific Region during the past decade and outlined key future health-care challenges. This was followed by an introduction of the WHO CCs and presentation of the Forum objectives and programmes.

One of the major challenges of the past decade was the global financial crisis, which greatly diminished countries' capacity to invest in health. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) replaced the Millennium Development Goals, changing the development landscape and global geopolitics of health care. Demographic shifts and epidemiological transition such as rapidly ageing population, increased urbanization, the rise of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) and increasing inequity in health challenged the capacity of health systems. Despite these challenges, countries continued to develop and progress towards better population health. There has been growing political commitment at the highest levels to universal health coverage (UHC); and despite economic constraints, governments are investing more in health.

Though communicable diseases remain major causes of deaths in the Region, significant health gains have been made. Most malaria-endemic countries are closer than ever to elimination. Deaths from tuberculosis (TB) have decreased by 30%, and TB incidence has declined. Sustained immunization of children has helped turn the tide on viral hepatitis. More than 40 million new hepatitis infections have been prevented, and approximately 7 million lives have been saved.

NCDs are responsible for four out of every five premature deaths in the Region, affecting countries at all development levels. Countries have taken strong action to tackle the all-important NCD risk factors – tobacco use, excessive consumption of alcohol, unhealthy diets and lack of physical activity. Several countries have used legislative measures, such as higher taxes on unhealthy products, smoke-free laws and stronger warning labels on tobacco packages.

Countries' health systems have been strengthened. Several have made good progress in reducing out-of-pocket expenses, which helped increase access to health care and services. This progress has been the result of joint efforts of many partners and shared commitments to continue to address NCDs, prepare for health emergencies, strengthen primary health care and strengthen health systems towards UHC. Advances have also been made to address health security threats in the Region. Compared with 10 years ago, countries are better prepared to respond to health emergencies.

Strengthening working relationships with other sectors is crucial to address health-care challenges, most of which come from outside the health sector. Solutions to these challenges lie outside the traditional WHO sphere of influence. Environmental health, climate change and antimicrobial resistance are some examples. Poor air quality causes more than 2 million deaths in the Region every year. Climate change poses immediate risks to people living in the Pacific, and many have become climate change refugees, living with poor sanitation and hygiene as well as increased risk of diseases. Drug-resistant TB and malaria affect population health, and declining donor support further challenges countries in sustaining the prevention, detection and response to infectious diseases. A multisectoral, whole-of-society, whole-of-system approach is therefore a key to addressing future health-care challenges.

WHO continues to strive to improve its ways of working and to strengthen partnerships with other sectors. Collaborating centres, along with other partners, are instrumental in supporting WHO to achieve “a world in which all people attain the highest possible level of health and well-being”. Dr Shin urged all the participants to make full use of the Regional Forum as an important avenue to discuss strengthening partnerships for support to countries with greater impact. He thanked collaboration centres for their contribution to the progress towards better population health and encouraged them to continue their support to the incoming Regional Director.

2.2 Session 1 – Plenary: Past, present and future (1)

Dr Takeshi Kasai shared the progress of collaboration between WHO and institutions since the second Regional Forum in 2016. The first Regional Forum was convened in 2014 in Manila to share WHO priorities, share good practices of effective collaboration, and identify innovative opportunities to strengthen strategic partnerships between WHO and collaborating centres. Since then, WHO and institutions have worked more collaboratively. The work of collaborating centres has been part of WHO’s workplan and their activities have been monitored. The role of each collaborating centre has also been more clearly defined. There have been more dialogues between WHO and collaborating centres and good practices have been shared and used.

The second Regional Forum, convened in 2016, further promoted the sharing and use of good practices and strengthened the alignment of collaborating centres’ work with the needs of Member States and WHO priorities. The second Regional Forum introduced the SDGs and emphasized collaboration that was designed and implemented in line with country priorities and commitments to achieving the SDGs. The Forum further fostered innovative and effective partnerships for better health outcomes in countries and encouraged collaboration between and among WHO CCs.

Two collaborating centres shared experiences of innovative collaboration among institutions. Since the first Regional Forum in 2014, institutions in Japan and the Republic of Korea, respectively, have set up networks of in-country collaborating centres. Representative of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems (JPN-45) shared their experiences of developing the Japan WHO CC network. Hosted by the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Japan, the Japan network of organized two meetings, in 2017 and 2018 respectively, to foster good relationships among the centres, discuss collaboration and follow up on implementations. A total of 58 experts from 34 collaborating centres attended in 2017 and 50 experts from 32 collaborating centres in 2018. Senior leadership from the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific participated in both meetings, reaffirming WHO’s commitment to strengthen partnerships with collaborating centres.

The Alliance of WHO Collaborating Centres in Korea was set up in 2014 with three key objectives – partnerships, collaboration and information sharing. The Alliance has formal terms of reference, a website and an online meeting platform (www.whocckorea.com). Up until 2018, the Alliance has organized a total of 13 meetings, including online meetings. Membership included eight public institutions, 10 universities and three government organizations. Key activities included the organization of conferences, seminars and training, collaborative projects among collaborating centres, and sharing of information.

2.3 Session 2 – Panel: Past, present and future (2)

This moderated session aimed to familiarize collaborating centres with the new WHO global framework and key regional strategies and frameworks developed since the last Forum.

The Thirteenth WHO General Programme of Work (GPW13) is a framework to accelerate progress for achieving the SDGs with a mission to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable. The GPW13 focuses on three strategic priorities known as “the triple billion”: 1 billion more people enjoying better health and well-being, 1 billion more people benefiting from UHC and 1 billion more people better protected from health emergencies. “The triple billion” are interdependent, and each cannot be achieved individually. Implementing these strategic priorities will require new ways of working that should include strategic shifts in the way we work. The organizational shift will include strategies to step up leadership, drive impact at the country level and focus on global public good impact. This shift should take into consideration the sociopolitical and economic context of the countries. It should also identify and measure impact, reshape the operating model, transform partnerships, and promote and foster a change in the work culture. This WHO framework for the SDGs has a strong and central focus on country support. It emphasizes that the normative work should be driven by needs and that there should be a clear demonstration and articulation of outcomes, including efforts to build accountability of results. This can only happen with strong partnership and multisectoral collaboration.

The agenda items of the Regional Committee sessions provide opportunities for WHO to respond to the needs and requests of Member States and provide a strategic focus to the support that is provided. Directors of each technical division presented an overview of key priorities that have been addressed and opened opportunities for collaborating centres to consider how they can help WHO in providing the required support to Member States. The micro-videos showed the Regional Committee agenda items developed and approved in the last two years.

Each WHO division director provided a brief introduction on how and why these Regional Committee agenda items (Table 1) were chosen. The Division of Health Systems emphasized UHC, which is about access to good quality care without undergoing financial hardship. It requires the “iron triangle” of governance, service delivery and financing. To operationalize this, one of the items was to clarify and improve accountability of hospitals in the health systems. To strengthen accountability, one entry point is to leverage the opportunities created by e-health. In addition, a strong governance and accountability mechanism requires sound legal and regulatory frameworks.

Communicable diseases remain an important cause of mortality and morbidity in the Region, mainly affecting the most vulnerable. The Regional Committee agenda on triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis, HIV and syphilis was an effort to significantly reduce the morbidity due to these infections using an integrated approach. The platform provided by antenatal care can be optimized to provide preventive/protective services. Another example is neglected tropical diseases, which mainly affect marginalized populations. They can be controlled by effective chemotherapy and sound surveillance, and the regional framework on neglected tropical diseases focuses on ensuring that services can be accessed by all. The agenda items on measles and rubella elimination are important because of their prevalence in the Region; these diseases can be effectively prevented through vaccination.

Significant health priorities in the Region are due to the rise in NCDs and ageing population. Rehabilitation usually has been associated with people with disability. However, it is an essential part of UHC and is important for continuity of care. To address the unmet need for rehabilitation services, the *Regional Action Framework on Rehabilitation* focuses on integrating rehabilitation in all levels of the health system. The success of SDG 3 will depend on people’s ability to promote and maintain good health. The agenda item on promoting health in the SDGs builds on the Ottawa Charter and the Shanghai Declaration. The agenda item on protecting children from the harmful impact of food marketing aims to control the marketing and consumption of unhealthy foods among infants and

children; unhealthy marketing approaches have an adverse effect on the health of children. This will be further elaborated at the 2019 Regional Committee session.

The Western Pacific Region is home to eight of 15 countries in the world with frequent emergencies. This makes it important for countries to be better prepared. The *Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies* (APSED III) framework focuses on strengthening generic public health systems and learning from real-world events. As the context is ever changing, countries have to be ready for new and emerging diseases and outbreaks. In addition, while Member States' health systems have progressed substantially, investing in building core capacities is still required to respond effectively to emergencies and disasters.

Table 1. Regional Committee agenda items by WHO technical division

Division	Regional Committee agenda item
Communicable Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis (2017) • Measles and rubella elimination (2017) • Controlling and eliminating neglected tropical diseases (2018)
Health Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing priority public health services (2017) • Making medicines and the health workforce safer (2017) • Strengthening legal frameworks for health (2018) • Improving hospital planning and management (2018) • Harnessing e-health for service delivery (2018)
NCDs and Health through the Life-Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting children from the harmful impact of food marketing (2017) • Health promotion in the Sustainable Development Goals (2017) • Strengthening rehabilitation for health and well-being (2018)
Health Security and Emergencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies (APSED III) • Western Pacific Regional Framework for Action for Disaster Risk Management for Health (RDM) • Food Safety (2017)

2.4 Lunchtime sessions: WHO collaborating centres policies and procedures

Facilitated by Ms Tatiana Titova, Technical Officer, WHO HQ Collaborating Centres Team, Mr Fabio Di Cera Paternostro, External Relations Officer, Partnership and Non-State Actors, and Ms Nittita Prasopa-Plaizier, Technical Officer, Education and Capacity Development, sessions were organized during the lunch break on both days, to provide updates on policies and procedures related to WHO CCs. In particular, the presentations discussed changes to policies and procedures, including the inclusion of due diligence in the redesignation process. The presentations would be shared directly with collaborating centres through their respective technical officers.

2.5 Lunchtime sessions: Poster viewing

In total, 102 of 140 (73%) of collaborating centres exhibited their posters to communicate their key activities and achievements, highlighting relevance to the SDGs and the country support that they delivered in collaboration with WHO. Each day, different sets of posters were on display. Participants were asked to vote for posters that impressed them the most, using coloured stickers to indicate their “vote”. The lunchtime session on each day was dedicated for viewing posters, and the participants were encouraged to view posters at any time during the day. The number of stickers was tallied at the

end of each day. The top five collaborating centres were presented with a Recognition of Distinguished Forum Poster award (Annex 5B).

2.6 Session 3 – Breakout sessions: Enhancing collaboration via WHO’s new strategic direction

The breakout sessions were arranged by divisions. The sessions provided opportunities for the technical units and relevant collaborating centres to take stock of progress in implementing the 2016 Forum recommendations, reflecting on their contribution to the SDGs and discussing current activities and priorities. The discussion continued in session 7 on exploring opportunities to align the work of their respective programme areas. A summary of the outcomes of sessions 3 and 7 is available in Annex 3.

2.7 Field visits: Understanding country needs

Field visits to six local health facilities and organizations (Cho Ray Hospital, Children’s hospital #2, Co Giang Commune Health Station, District 1 Health Center, Pasteur Institute, and University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City) were organized to offer deep understanding of country needs and context. Participants were provided with an opportunity to visit a health facility or organization of their interest. The programme included observation (walk around), briefing by the facility’s representatives (leadership or senior management), and discussion and questions. The observation and discussions enabled the participants (collaborating centres) to understand challenges faced by WHO in supporting Member States. This also enabled health-care facilities to meet with and discuss with WHO CCs. A list of visited health facilities and key messages is provided in Annex 4.

2.8 Optional session

An optional session was organized to offer an opportunity for participants who did not participate in the field visits to discuss cross-cutting topics of interest. They discussed three main topics: UHC, health promotion and climate change. Key messages included the following: UHC remains a key challenge as about 20 million people in the Region fall into poverty as a result of seeking health care. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to global health. The rise of NCDs further challenges sustainability and resilience of health systems. The planning and provision of health care and services, therefore, require actions that go beyond the health sector; multisectoral efforts are key to achieving UHC and the SDGs.

2.9 Session 4 – Plenary: Eminent speaker

The participants benefited from the knowledge and experiences of Dr Margaret Chan, President of the Boao Forum for Asia, who shared her vision and wisdom about key challenges of global health and how WHO and collaborating centres could exert their joint efforts. Facilitated by Dr Vivian Lin, the session was presented in an innovative format as an interactive “conversation” between Dr Chan and the participants. The key messages was that multisectoral collaboration is crucial to tackle global health as challenges to health care go beyond the health sector and are influenced by many factors.

2.10 Session 5 – Panel: Working effectively at country level

This moderated session provided opportunities for four heads of WHO country offices to share with the participants key issues and challenges faced by their country to enable better understanding of country needs, contexts and WHO support for countries. The aim was to explore how to support

countries effectively through collaboration between WHO and collaborating centres, aligned with the new WHO strategic direction. Three collaborating centres (AUS-113 WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems, JPN-67 WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Tropical and Emerging Viral Diseases and KOR-90 WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals) joined the panel discussion to share their experiences in collaborating with WHO to support countries. The discussions were continued in breakout session 6.

2.11 Session 6 – Breakout session: Maximizing role of WHO collaborating centres in supporting countries

There were four breakout sessions led by heads of WHO country offices in Fiji, Viet Nam, Cambodia and Malaysia, respectively. The discussions built on the previous session and centred around the work of WHO at the country level, including country needs, effective in-country practices, and opportunities for collaboration between WHO and collaborating centres to support WHO's work at the country level.

Pacific island countries and areas

Pacific island countries and areas (PICs) face challenges of both communicable and noncommunicable diseases, outbreaks, disasters, and climate change. Huge geographical distances add further challenges. Countries are making efforts to achieve targets set by the Healthy Islands vision. There are 20 WHO CCs supporting the PICs. The WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems (AUS-113) works in the area of rehabilitation and emphasized the importance of bringing rehabilitation services to the community level by integrating rehabilitation into primary care.

Key areas identified as needing more support from collaborating centres included:

- immunization, clinical case management
- chemical safety; radiation safety, environment, occupational health, climate change and health
- International Health Regulations, or IHR (2005), capacities at points of entry
- health promotion
- nutrition
- e-health.

Viet Nam

Viet Nam, given its 95 million population and vast differences between regions and population groups, requires tailor-made support meeting their specific needs. Public health systems have been established and are functional, but emerging issues such as ageing and NCDs as well as graduation from external funding for health need to be addressed. The WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals (KOR-90) supports health-related research and training in Viet Nam, including laboratory training for Zika virus disease, which demonstrates the importance and effectiveness of close collaboration between WHO country office and collaborating centres.

WHO priorities in Viet Nam, based on the country priorities and WHO global priorities (GPW13) as well as joint priorities with the United Nations in Viet Nam, are as follows:

- Health systems strengthening: health legislation and health workforce, health financing & resource mobilization, pharmaceuticals and medical products, health service delivery, maternal and child health, and ageing.

- Building sustainable national capacities and partnerships to ensure public health security and safety: public health security, IHR/APSED, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), food safety, quality and safety of food and medicines, environmental risk, and occupational health.
- Managing effectively communicable and noncommunicable diseases of public health importance: HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis, TB, malaria, vector-borne diseases and neglected tropical diseases, vaccine-preventable diseases, and NCDs and their risk factors.

Cambodia

Cambodia is facing a rapid increase in population (currently 16 million). NCDs accounted for 61% of mortality, but only limited health centres provide screening and treatment services for NCDs. Public health emergencies also pose a threat to the country. The Government increased the health budget by 16% in 2018. A number of collaborating centres currently provide support to Cambodia. For example, the WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals (KOR-90) supports surveillance and laboratory services at the country level efficiently by understanding the needs of the country and maximizing most of the available resources.

Key areas identified as needing more support from collaborating centres:

- Health systems: regulatory system strengthening, capacity-building of pharmacovigilance system, financial risk protection, e-health and information and communications technology (ICT) roll-out, community engagement, and health promotion.
- Communicable diseases: malaria elimination strategic approach and surveillance model, control of hepatitis, elimination of schistosomiasis.
- NCDs: urban health/healthy cities, population salt reduction, integration of NCD interventions in primary health care, multisectoral collaboration approaches.
- Preparedness and responses to public health emergencies: training on zoonotic disease research and diagnosis, testing of seasonal influenza isolates and samples, sharing experience on food safety.

Malaysia

Malaysia is an upper-middle-income country with strong health systems. The increasing burden of NCDs and an ageing population pose new challenges, while gaps in communicable diseases remain. The WHO country office is small and needs to find a way to provide needed technical support efficiently through collaboration with WHO CCs. Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam have a strong interest to work with collaborating centres.

Upper-middle-income countries have subscribed to UHC in the SDGs. All Member States in the Region will require support provided to upper-middle-income countries in the near or distant future. Transformation of health systems and health security and emergencies can be politically sensitive. Important aspects of effective country support may include: support that is tailor-made to match and reflect local needs, flexibility and adaptability of collaborating centres, effective and efficient coordination of support provision, and close and better communication and information exchange between and across the three levels of WHO (country, region, global) and WHO CCs.

The needs in upper-middle-income countries are as follows:

- Strategic guidance and highly specialized technical assistance: highly specialized assistance, requiring top-level public health expertise more than pure academic support.

- Health systems transformation and reform to sustain UHC: adjustment of health financing to cope with the increasing burden of NCDs and ageing populations and closing the gap for some communicable diseases and reproductive health.
- Preparedness to respond to disease outbreaks.

WHO provides support on a range of issues, such as, on taxation of sugar-sweetened beverages, evaluation of salt-reduction strategies and the establishment of new disease-specific programmes.

There are two collaborating centres supporting Malaysia to establish laboratory quality assurance systems for viral hepatitis and integrate elimination of mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B through routine testing and antiviral pre-exposure prophylaxis during pregnancy.

The WHO country office would like to benefit from the institutional capacity beyond the terms of reference of collaborating centres. Support from collaborating centres can also help maintain relevance and visibility of WHO in the respective country.

2.12 Session 7 – Breakout session: Looking forward – Next steps and actions

This final breakout session provided another opportunity for WHO technical units and collaborating centres to identify priority areas for collaboration and ways to enhance partnerships to support countries with greater impact. The discussions built on the issues discussed in breakout session 3 on the previous day and further refine agreed actions (Annex 3).

2.13 Closing session

The closing session summarized highlights of the discussion in the preceding sessions, which included the awarding of the WHO Collaborating Centre Awards 2018. Ten collaborating centres were recognized for their contribution to the work of WHO in the following categories: (1) field impact (special award from the Regional Director), (2) innovation and research (web stories), and (3) People’s Choice (best posters voted by collaborating centres). The list of winning collaborating centres is provided in Annex 5.

The draft Outcome Statement was presented to the participants and all were in agreement with it (available in Annex 6). Dr Li Ailan and Dr Hai-rim Shin presented the summary of key messages and the way forward as follows:

- Significant progress has been made since the previous forums, and progress in health for the attainment of the SDGs requires a multisectoral, whole-of-society approach at the country level, which means going outside of traditional ways of working.
- Participants gained a better understanding of WHO’s strategic programmes and frameworks by actively engaging in technical sessions and interactions with heads of WHO country offices. The field visits to six local health facilities and organizations further enriched their understanding of country needs and priorities at the facility level as well as challenges faced by WHO in providing support to Member States.
- Collaborating centres have formed in-country network to share good practices and enhance collaboration. Representatives of WHO CCs from Australia, Japan and the Republic of Korea shared their experiences of working effectively together and with countries as examples of effective country support.
- Maximizing the contribution of collaborating centres in delivering effective country support requires the right country support to meet country needs in the right context, at the right time and with the right approach. It should be a joint effort of WHO, collaborating centres and

Member States, coordinated by WHO through a sound communication and coordination process.

- Collaborating centres should be facilitated to have a good understanding of the political, sociocultural and economic context of each country so that they can align their work with national priorities and WHO's strategic direction, anticipate emerging country needs, and deliver the support at the right timing and in a flexible way that suits the country context.
- The Forum proposed the "Three Cs" (communication, consultation and collaboration) as platforms to regularly monitor and evaluate the collaboration of WHO and collaborating centres.
- Collaborating centres and WHO should work together to strengthen "story-telling", that is the sharing of experience and expertise of collaborating centres for best practice and resource mobilization. WHO can help "match" collaborating centre expertise to the priorities and needs of countries.

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Conclusions

The Forum participants reaffirmed the importance of "working together" across systems and beyond the health sector to strengthen collaboration and maximize collaborating centres' contribution in delivering effective country support with greater impact at the country level. They agreed with the Outcome Statement and committed to continue sharing experiences, expertise and good practices.

The outgoing Regional Director thanked Dr Vivian Lin for her service and urged all those collaborating to continue their support to the new Regional Director and further enhance collaboration for effective country support. The Forum concluded with an agreement to convene the Fourth Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific in 2020 to further strengthen innovative collaboration to "promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable".

3.2 Recommendations

WHO and WHO CCs are encouraged to consider the following next actions:

- Strengthen information sharing between WHO and collaborating centres to better understand country context and needs.
- Improve coordination to align collaborating centre activities with country priorities and WHO strategies and frameworks in order to maximize impact at the country level.
- Further develop ways of working together, such as establishing and leveraging technical networks at country and regional levels, in order to strengthen knowledge and resource sharing and synergies.
- Share progress and good practices, and better communicate the value of WHO and collaborating centre partnerships.
- Reconvene in 2020 to review the outcomes of the partnership of WHO and collaborating centres for consistency with the identified priorities.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. Full programme

Time	Day 1: Thursday, 22 November 2018							
08:30	Opening session – Ballroom 1, 2, 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction - Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Director of Programme Management, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific • Welcome remarks -Honourable Assoc. Professor Dr Nguyen Thi Kim Tien, Minister of Health Viet Nam • Opening address - Dr Shin Young-soo, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific • Introductions of WHO Collaborating Centres (CCs) • Objectives, agenda, meeting process - Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Director of Programme Management 							
09:45					Break – Pre-function area			
10:30	Session 1 – Plenary: Past, Present, Future (1) - Ballroom 1, 2, 3 Moderator: Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Director of Programme Management, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report from the Secretariat - progress since 2nd Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific 2016 • Examples of innovative collaboration of WHO CCs 							
11:00	Session 2 - Panel: Past, Present, Future (2) – Ballroom 1, 2, 3 Moderator: Dr Peter Cowley, acting Director, Health Systems Presentation: Dr Graham Harrison, Executive Officer, Country Support Unit Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of WHO’s new global framework • Key regional strategies and frameworks of the last two years <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Tauhid Islam, acting Director, Communicable Diseases 2. Dr Peter Cowley, acting Director, Health Systems 3. Dr Hai-rim Shin, Director, Non-communicable Diseases and Health through the Life-course 4. Dr Li Ailan, Regional Emergency Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme and Director, Health Security and Emergencies 							
12:00	Lunch Saigon Café		Poster session 1 (12:45 – 13:30) Pre-function area			Day 1 Seminar – WHO CC Policy (12:45 – 13:30) Ballroom 1, 2, 3		
13:30	Session 3 - Breakout session: Enhancing collaboration via WHO’s new strategic direction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups by technical programme areas: Aligning WHO CCs’ work to WHO’s new strategic direction • Effective engagement (upon redesignation, scope within existing terms of references, different engagement models) 							
	Malaria, other vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases Lead: Rabindra Abeyasinghe Room: Da Nang	Tuberculosis Lead: Tauhid Islam Room: Ha Long	HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and sexual transmitted infection Lead: Naoko Ishikawa Room: Hue	Noncommunicable diseases and Tobacco Free Initiative Lead: Warrick Junsuk Kim Room: Ballroom1	Health promotion and nutrition Leads: Riitta-Maija Hämäläinen and Juliawati Untoro Room: Ballroom 2	Mental health and substance abuse Lead: Martin Vandendyck Room: Ballroom 3	Reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health Lead: Howard Sobel Room: Ballroom 3	Library and Publications (Strategic communications) Lead: Chandani Thapa Room: Hanoi
	Disability and rehabilitation	Health and the environment	Traditional medicine	Integrated service delivery and	Access to medicines &	Health systems, information &	Health security and food safety	

	Lead: Darryl Barrett Room: Hoi An	Lead: Rok Ho Kim Room: VIP 4	Lead: Yu Lee Park Room: Saigon and Da Lat	human resources for health Leads: Indrajit Hazarika and Ogochukwu Chukwujekwu Room: Mekong	health technologies, strengthening regulatory capacity and blood services Leads: Socorro Escalante and Nittita Prasopa-Plaizier Room: VIP 3	evidence and National health policies, strategies and plans Lead: Gao Jun Room: VIP 2	Leads: Peter Hoejskov and Masaya Kato Room: VIP 5	
15:00	Break – Pre-function area							
15:30	Field visits: Understanding country needs							
	Cho Ray Hospital	Children’s Hospital #2	Pasteur Institute HCMC	University of Medicine and Pharmacy HCMC	A district health centre in district 1	Co Giang commune health station (in district 1)		
18:00	Pre-dinner reception - Lang Du Lich Binh Quoi							

Time	Day 2: Friday, 23 November 2018							
08:30	Session 4 – Plenary: Eminent Speaker – Ballroom 1, 2, 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key note speech – Dr Margaret Chan, President of the Boao Forum for Asia Global Health Forum 							
09:00	Session 5 – Panel: Working effectively at country level - Ballroom 1, 2, 3 Moderator: Dr Vivian Lin, Professor, La Trobe University Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Corinne Capuano, WHO Representative to the South Pacific and Director, Pacific Technical Support Dr Liu Yunguo, WHO Representative to Cambodia Dr Ying-Ru Lo, WHO Representative to Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Singapore Dr Kidong Park, WHO Representative to Viet Nam Three WHO Collaborating Centres 							
10:00	Break – Pre-function area							
10:30	Session 6 - Breakout session: Maximizing the role of WHO CCs in supporting WHO’s work at country level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country needs and effective in-country practices Future opportunities for collaboration between WHO and WHO CCs 							
	Group 1: Pacific Island Countries Lead: Dr Corinne Capuano	Group 2: Cambodia Lead: Dr Liu Yunguo	Group 3: Upper-middle income countries Lead: Dr Ying-Ru Lo	Group 4: Viet Nam Lead: Dr Kidong Park				
	Participants rotate to select another group							
	Group 1: Pacific Island Countries Lead: Dr Corinne Capuano	Group 2: Cambodia Lead: Dr Liu Yunguo	Group 3: Upper-middle income countries Lead: Dr Ying-Ru Lo	Group 4: Viet Nam Lead: Dr Kidong Park				

12:00	Lunch Saigon Café	Poster session 1 (12:45 – 13:30) Pre-function area	Day 2 Seminar – WHO CC Policy (12:45 – 13:30) Ballroom 1, 2, 3					
13:30	Session 7 - Breakout session: Looking forward – next steps and actions							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups by technical programme areas: recap of key discussion points and identifying next steps and actions 							
	Malaria, other vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases Lead: Rabindra Abeyasinghe Room: Da Nang	Tuberculosis Lead: Tauhid Islam Room: Ha Long	HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and sexual transmitted infection Lead: Naoko Ishikawa Room: Hue	Noncommunicable diseases and Tobacco Free Initiative Lead: Warrick Junsuk Kim Room: Ballroom 1	Health promotion and nutrition Leads: Riitta-Maija Hämäläinen and Juliawati Untoro Room: Ballroom 2	Mental health and substance abuse Lead: Martin Vandendyck Room: Ballroom 3	Reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health Lead: Howard Sobel Room: Ballroom 3	Library and Publications (Strategic communications) Lead: Chandani Thapa Room: Hanoi
	Disability and rehabilitation Lead: Darryl Barrett Room: Hoi An	Health and the environment Lead: Rok Ho Kim Room: VIP 4	Traditional medicine Lead: Yu Lee Park Room: Saigon and Da Lat	Integrated service delivery and human resources for health Leads: Indrajit Hazarika and Ogochukwu Chukwujekwu Room: Mekong	Access to medicines & health technologies, strengthening regulatory capacity and blood services Leads: Socorro Escalante and Nittita Prasopa-Plaizier Room: VIP 3	Health systems, information & evidence and National health policies, strategies and plans Lead: Gao Jun Room: VIP 2	Health security and food safety Leads: Peter Hoejskov and Masaya Kato Room: VIP 5	
15:00	Break – Pre-function area							
15:45	Closing session – Ballroom 1, 2, 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poster awards Key highlights and way forward Closing remarks - Dr Shin Young-soo, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific 							

ANNEX 2A. List of participants

* Collaborating centres that submitted a poster

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
AUS-45	National Serology Reference Laboratory (NRL), St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research	WHO Collaborating Centre for Diagnostics and Laboratory Support for HIV/AIDS and Other Blood-borne Infections	Dr Philippa Hetzel
AUS-59	The Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Blindness	Dr Andreas Mueller
AUS-60	School of Life Sciences, Queensland University of Technology	WHO Collaborating Centre for Arbovirus Reference and Research	Professor John Aaskov
AUS-61	Gender and Women's Health Unit, Centre for Health Equity, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne	WHO Collaborating Centre for Women's Health	Dr Meghan Bohren, Dr Cathy Vaughan
*AUS-70	Queensland Mycobacterium Reference Laboratory (QMRL), Pathology Queensland Central Laboratory at Royal Brisbane Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tuberculosis Bacteriology	Dr Sushil Pandey
*AUS-72	Department of Microbiology, The Prince of Wales Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Sexually Transmitted Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance	Professor Monica Lahra
*AUS-78	Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health Impact Assessment	Dr Helen Brown
AUS-79	Clinical Policy and Research Division, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (DASSA)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research in the Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Problems	Dr Mike McDonough
AUS-80	Global Obesity Centre at the Centre for Population Health Research, Faculty of Health, Deakin University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention	Professor Colin Bell
AUS-86	Discipline of Chinese Medicine, School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Dr Anthony Zhang
*AUS-87	Centre for International Child Health, University of Melbourne	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Child and Neonatal Health	Dr Shidan Tosif
*AUS-89	Albion Street Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for Capacity Building on HIV and STI Care, Treatment and Support	Ms Katherine Coote Dr Tracey Mills
*AUS-91	Influenza Reference Laboratory, Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza	Dr Ian Barr
*AUS-93	Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health, University of Technology, Sydney (UTS)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development	Ms Michele Rumsey
AUS-98	School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition, James Cook University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Education and Research Capacity Building	Professor Caryn West

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
*AUS-107	Boden Institute of Obesity, Nutrition and Exercise and the Prevention Research Collaboration, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney	WHO Collaborating Centre for Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity	Professor Timothy Paul Gill
AUS-109	Disaster Research Centre, Flinders University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Mass Gatherings and Global Health Security	Professor Paul Arbon
*AUS-110	The Food Policy Division, The George Institute for Global Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Population Salt Reduction	Dr Jacqui Webster
*AUS-113	Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney	WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems	Professor Gwynnyth Llewellyn
AUS-117	Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Leadership in Health Promotion	Ms Jerril Rechter
*AUS-121	Research and Molecular Development, Epidemiology, and Virology, Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory (VIDRL)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Viral Hepatitis	Ms Suellen Nicholson, Ms Laura Thomas Cowie, Benjamin Professor
AUS-122	Asia Pacific Centre for Work, Health and Safety, University of South Australia	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Professor Maureen Dollard
*AUS-128	Health Systems Improvement Unit, Centre for Population Health Research, School of Health and Social Development, Faculty of Health, Deakin University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Literacy	Professor Richard Osborne
*AUS-130	Noncommunicable Disease Control Unit, Centre for Health Equity, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne	WHO Collaborating Centre for Implementation Research for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases	Professor Brian Oldenburg
AUS-131	College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, Division of Tropical Health and Medicine, James Cook University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Vectorborne and Neglected Tropical Diseases	Professor Peter Leggat
AUS-133	Public Health Interventions Research Group, Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales	WHO Collaborating Centre for Trachoma	Dr Susana Vaz Nery
*AUS-135	General Practice Unit, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales	WHO Collaborating Centre for eHealth	Professor Siaw-Teng Liaw
AUS-137	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Workforce Regulation	Mr Nicholas Lord
*CHN-11	Guangdong Provincial Cardiovascular Institute	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Cardiovascular Diseases	Dr Feng Yingqing Dr Liu Xiaoqing
*CHN-24	China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Food Contamination Monitoring	Ms Zhou Rui Dr Zhou Shuang Professor Wu Yongning
*CHN-32	Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Dr Zhao Hong Professor Jing Xianghong

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
*CHN-33	Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Mr Li Chengmin Ms Yuan Man Professor Xu Hong
*CHN-34	Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Professor Chen Shilin Ms Li Jin
CHN-35	Institute of Clinical Research and Information, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Mrs Zhang Zijun
*CHN-47	Nanjing Child Mental Health Research Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Child Mental Health	Professor Ke, Xiaoyan Dr Chu Kangkang
*CHN-50	Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Sun Yat-Sen University of Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation	Professor Huang Dong-Feng Professor Wai Leung Ambrose Lo
*CHN-52	Capital Institute of Paediatrics	WHO Collaborating Centre for Child Health	Mrs Zhang Shuyi Mr Li Tao
*CHN-55	Shanghai Blood Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for Blood Transfusion Services	Professor Zhu Yongming
*CHN-56	Sichuan Family Planning Research Institute, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research in Human Reproduction	Ms Wang Hanbing Professor Xin Liang Professor Zhang Qinxiu
*CHN-57	Beijing Tuberculosis and Thoracic Tumor Research Institute, National Center for TB Control and Clinical Medicine, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training on Tuberculosis	Dr Liu Yuhong
*CHN-58	Hunan Institute of Parasitic Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Schistosomiasis Control in Lake Regions	Professor Hou Xunya Professor Luo Zhihong Dr Zhang Yueyun
*CHN-60	Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Tongji Hospital, Tongji Medical College	WHO Collaborating Centre for Training and Research in Rehabilitation	Dr Lu Min
*CHN-62	Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Institute of Medical Information	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health and Biomedical Information	Ms Wang Kaiyi Mr Fang An
CHN-63	National Research Institute for Family Planning	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research in Human Reproduction	Dr Mao Qunxia Ms Lyu Yanhong
CHN-64	Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS)	WHO Collaborating Centre for the Community Control of Hereditary Diseases	Professor Liu Yaping Professor Huang Shangzhi
*CHN-71	Mental Health Institute, Central South University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Psychosocial Factors, Substance Abuse and Health	Professor Xiang Xiao Jun
*CHN-74	Women's and Children's Health Centre, Peking University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Women's and Children's Health	Ms Zhang Xiaosong Assistant Professor Wang Xueyin

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
CHN-75	National Center for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Control, Institute of Dermatology, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College	WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of Sexually Transmitted Infections	Dr Chen Xiangsheng
*CHN-77	Guangdong Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention	WHO Collaborating Centre for Surveillance, Research and Training of Emerging Infectious Diseases	Dr Song Tie Dr Luo Haiming
*CHN-81	Health Human Resources Development Center (HHRDC), National Health Commission, China	WHO Collaborating Centre for Human Resources for Health	Ms Zhang Yun Ms Li Xiaoyan
*CHN-83	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation	WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation	Mr King Kong Peter Poon Mr Wang Wei
*CHN-86	National Key Lab of Health Technology Assessment, Fudan University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Technology Assessment and Management	Professor Chen Yingyao
*CHN-89	School of Nursing, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services	Dr Timothy Boon-wee Sim Professor Alex Molasiotis
*CHN-91	Centre for Food Safety, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	WHO Collaborating Centre for Risk Analysis of Chemicals in Food	Dr Yuk Yin Philip Ho Dr Chi Cheung Henry Ng
*CHN-92	STD/AIDS Centre for Treatment and Care, Beijing Ditan Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Comprehensive Management of HIV Treatment and Care	Dr Zhang Yongli Dr Wang Linghang
*CHN-94	Beijing Tongren Hospital affiliated with Capital Medical University, Beijing Institute of Otorhinolaryngology	WHO Collaborating Centre for Prevention of Deafness	Dr Han Demin Ms Qi Beier
CHN-102	Office of the Shanghai Municipal Health Promotion Committee	WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urbanization	Ms Zhao Rong Mr Wu Xiaoyu
*CHN-110	Department of Public Mental Health, Peking University Institute of Mental Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health	Dr Ma Ning
*CHN-114	Department of Vector Biology and Control, National Institute for Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Vector Surveillance and Management	Professor Liu Qiyong Dr Liu Xiaobo
*CHN-115	Chinese Medicine Division, Department of Health, Hong Kong SAR	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Dr Wong Wai Ying
*CHN-118	Health Publishing Research and Development Center, People's Medical Publishing House	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Information and Publishing	Ms Ji Fang Ms Zhang Chenyu
*CHN-119	School of International Trade and Economics, University of International Business and Economics	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco and Economics	Dr Zheng Rong
*CHN-120	School of Public Health, The University of Hong Kong	WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Control	Professor Benjamin Cowling

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
CHN-123	Jiading Primary Health Care Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for Primary Health Care	Dr Zhong Peisong Dr Deng Senmiao
*CHN-125	China National Health Development Research Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Classifications, Terminologies and Standards	Dr Wang Yunping
*CHN-127	China National Health Development Research Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Strengthening	Ms Wang Rongrong
*CHN-129	School of Nursing, Peking Union Medical College	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Policy-Making and Leadership	Professor Li Huaping Ms Ma Weiguang
*CHN-130	Institute of Parasitic Diseases (IPD), Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tropical Diseases	Dr Guan Yayi
*CHN-131	Health Bureau, Macao SAR Government	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Dr Choi Peng Cheong Mr Ng Kuok Leong
*CHN-133	Tobacco Medicine and Tobacco Cessation Centre, Institute of Respiratory Medicine, China-Japan Friendship Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco Cessation and Respiratory Diseases Prevention	Dr Xiao Dan
*CHN-136	Jiangsu Institute of Parasitic Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training on Malaria Elimination	Professor Gao Qi Dr Cao Jun
*CHN-137	Evidence Based Medicine Center, Lanzhou University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Guideline Implementation and Knowledge Translation	Professor Chen Yaolong
CHN-138	Chinese Centre for Health Education, National Health Commission, China	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion and Education	Dr Huang Xianggang Dr Hou Xiaohui
*JPN-28	Department of Quality Assurance and Radiological Protection, National Institute of Infectious Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals	Dr Koji Ishii Dr Yuko Kumagai
JPN-38	Research Institute of Tuberculosis (RIT)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference, Research and Training on Tuberculosis	Dr Seiya Kato
*JPN-45	Bureau of International Health Cooperation, National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Development	Dr Eiji Hinoshita Dr Norihiro Kokudo Dr Noriko Fujita, Dr Hidechika Akashi
*JPN-46	Oriental Medicine Research Centre (OMRC), Kitasato University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Professor Hiroshi Odaguchi
*JPN-49	National Institute for Minamata Disease	WHO Collaborating Centre for Studies on the Health Effects of Mercury Compounds	Dr Megumi Yamamoto
*JPN-50	Department on International Health and Collaboration, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Integrated People-Centred Service Delivery	Dr Tomofumi Sone
*JPN-51	Department of Environmental Health, Water Supply and Management Section, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Water Supply and Sanitation	Dr Dai Shimazaki
*JPN-53	Institute of Industrial Ecological Sciences, University of Occupational and Environmental Health (UOEH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Dr Yasuo Morimoto Dr Odgerel Chimed-Ochir

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
*JPN-54	Department of Japanese Oriental Medicine, Graduate School of Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Toyama	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Professor Yutaka Shimada Dr Hidetoshi Watari
*JPN-56	Diabetes Center, Kyoto Medical Center, National Hospital Organization	WHO Collaborating Centre for Diabetes Treatment and Education	Dr Shigeo Kono
*JPN-57	Kurihama Medical and Addiction Center, National Hospital Organization	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training on Alcohol-Related Problems	Dr Sachio Matsushita Dr Takanobu Matsuzaki
JPN-58	People-Centered Care Research Department, Research Center, St. Luke's International University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Development in Primary Health Care	Dr Katharina Da Silva Lopes
*JPN-61	Osaka Medical Centre and Research Institute for Maternal and Child Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Maternal and Child Health	Dr Kimiko Ueda
*JPN-64	Influenza Virus Research Center, National Institute of Infectious Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza	Dr Shinji Watanabe
*JPN-67	Department of Virology, Institute for Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Tropical and Emerging Viral Diseases	Dr Meng Ling Moi Professor Kouichi Morita
*JPN-68	Department of International Health and Radiation, Department of Molecular Biology, Atomic Bomb Disease Institute, Nagasaki University School of Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on Radiation-Induced Thyroid Diseases and Surgical Treatment of Radiation Injuries	Professor Noboru Takamura
*JPN-70	National Rehabilitation Centre for Persons with Disabilities	WHO Collaborating Centre for Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation	Dr Yoshiko Tobimatsu
*JPN-73	International Health Graduate School, Tokyo Medical and Dental University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Policy Research	Professor Keiko Nakamura Dr Kaoruko Seino
*JPN-75	Department of Oral Health Science, Division of Preventive Dentistry, Niigata University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Translation of Oral Health Science	Professor Hiroshi Ogawa
*JPN-76	International Centre for Research Promotion and Informatics, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (JNIOSH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Dr Toru Yoshikawa Dr Rina So Dr Ken Tokizawa
*JPN-77	University of Hyogo, Research Institute of Nursing Care for People and Community	WHO Collaborating Centre for Disaster Risk Management for Health	Professor Sonoe Mashino Professor Maki Umeda
*JPN-78	Center for Global Studies on Culture and Society, Nihon University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Population, Reproductive Health and Development	Dr Ilja Musulin Professor Rikiya Matsukura
*JPN-79	Research Center for Radiation Emergency Medicine, National Institute of Radiological Sciences, National Institutes for Quantum and Radiological Science and Technology	WHO Collaborating Centre for Radiation Emergency Medicine	Dr Masashi Sagara

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
*JPN-83	Department of Respiratory Medicine, Dokkyo Medical University Koshigaya Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of Chronic Respiratory Diseases	Professor Hironori Sagara Mr Clyde Ito
*JPN-87	Research Centre for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Zoonosis Control	Dr Norikazu Isoda Professor Hiroshi Kida Professor Sawa Hirofumi
*JPN-88	Unit for International Collaboration on Nutrition and Physical Activity, National Institute of Health and Nutrition, National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition and Physical Activity	Dr Nobuo Nishi
*JPN-89	Centre for Research and Training on Interprofessional Education, Gunma University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training on Interprofessional Education	Professor Akinori Kama Professor Hideomi Watanabe
*JPN-90	Department of Environmental Health, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco Testing and Research	Dr Yohei Inaba
*JPN-91	Centre for Environmental and Health Sciences, Hokkaido University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health and Prevention of Chemical Hazards	Dr Machiko Minatoya Professor Reiko Kishi Dr Atsuko Araki
*JPN-92	Japan Support Center for Suicide Countermeasures, National Institute of Mental Health, National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Suicide Prevention	Dr Yutaka Motohashi Dr Kaneko Yoshihiro Ms Sayaka Yoshino
*JPN-93	Department of Virology II, National Institute of Infectious Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Virus Reference and Research (Enteroviruses)	Dr Hiroyuki Shimizu
*JPN-94	Disease Control and Prevention Center, National Center for Global Health and Medicine Hospital, National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Emerging Infectious Diseases	Dr Masahiro Ishikane
*JPN-95	Department of Internal Medicine/ Hepatology and Gastroenterology, Kanazawa University Hospital, Kanazawa University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Chronic Hepatitis and Liver Cancer	Takeshi Terashima Professor Shuichi Kaneko Dr Tatsuya Yamashita
*JPN-96	Fukushima Global Medical Science Center, Fukushima Medical University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Radiation Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery	Professor Koichi Tanigawa
*MAA-12	Tropical Infectious Diseases Research and Education Centre (TIDREC), University of Malaya	WHO Collaborating Centre for Arbovirus Reference and Research (Dengue/Severe Dengue)	Professor Sazaly AbuBakar
*MAA-13	Division of Medical Entomology, Institute for Medical Research	WHO Collaborating Centre for Ecology, Taxonomy and Control of Vectors of Malaria, Filariasis and Dengue	Dr Rohani Ahmad Wan Mohamad Ali, Wan Najdah Mrs
*MAA-14	Institute for Health Systems Research, Ministry of Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research and Quality Improvement	Dr Nor Izzah Dr HJ Ahmad Shauki
MAA-15	National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau (NPCB), Ministry of Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Regulatory Control of Pharmaceuticals	Ms Nurulfajar Mohd Jamid

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
*MAA-16	National Poison Centre, Science University of Malaysia (Universiti Sains Malaysia)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Drug Information	Professor Dato' Mohamed Isa Abdul Majid Ms Lucie Chuah Mr Halilol Rahman Mohamad Khan
NEZ-15	Pacific Paramedical Training Centre	WHO Collaborating Centre for External Quality Assessment in Health Laboratory Services	Mr Philip Wakem
*NEZ-16	Department of Human Nutrition, University of Otago	WHO Collaborating Centre for Human Nutrition	Dr Lisa Houghton Dr Rachel Brown
*PHL-13	College of Nursing, University of the Philippines Manila	WHO Collaborating Centre for Leadership in Nursing Development	Professor Luz Barbara Dones Professor Sheila Bonito
KOR-9	Catholic Industrial Medical Centre (CIMC), The Catholic University of Korea	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Professor Jung Wan Koo
*KOR-16	College of Nursing, Yonsei University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training for Nursing Development in Primary Health Care	Dr Sue Kim
*KOR-17	East-West Medical Research Institute, Kyung Hee University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Professor Seong-Gyu Ko
*KOR-19	Department of Preventive Medicine, College of Medicine, Yonsei University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research	Ms So Yeon Oh Professor Sung-In Jang
KOR-84	National Cancer Center (NCC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Cancer Control and Prevention	Dr Dae Yong Kim
KOR-86	Occupational Health Department, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Ms Ji Hye Baek Mr Donglee Yang
KOR-89	Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Dr Ji-Eun Park Ms Harim Seo
KOR-90	National Institute of Food and Drug Safety Evaluation (NIFDSE), Ministry of Food and Drug Safety	WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization & Evaluation of Biologicals	Dr Kwangmoon Lee Dr Si Hyung Yoo
KOR-96	Department of Medical Law and Ethics, The Asian Institute of Bioethics and Health Law (AIBHL), Yonsei University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Law and Bioethics	Dr Sook Sang Beck Ms Hyo Jung Sea Mr Hajun Jung
KOR-97	Environmental Health Research Department, National Institute of Environmental Research	WHO Collaborating Centre for Vulnerable Population and Environment Health	Ms Sihyun Nam Mrs Suejin Kim Dr Seung Do Yu
KOR-99	College of Medicine Library, Seoul National University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Information and Library Services	Dr Kyung Ae Hwang Dr Eun Sun Park
KOR-100	Korean Red Cross Blood Service, Korean Red Cross	WHO Collaborating Centre for Blood Transfusion Safety	Ms Eun Hye Kim Dr Myung Han Kim
*KOR-101	Research Institute for Healthy Cities and Health Impact Assessment, Soonchunhyang University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Health in All Policies	Dr Won Jhang Professor Yoon Hyung Park
KOR-102	JW Lee Center for Global Medicine, College of Medicine, Seoul National	WHO Collaborating Centre for Educational Development	Professor Jwa-Seop Shin

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre	Name of participants
	University		
*KOR-103	Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Community, Yongin Mental Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Mental Health	Dr Seongsu Kim Ms Suk Hee Lee Ms Min Hee Park
*KOR-104	Research Institute for Hospice/Palliative Care, College of Nursing, The Catholic University of Korea	WHO Collaborating Centre for Training in Hospice and Palliative Care	Dr Gyungjoo Lee Professor Jinsun(Sr. Julianna) Yong
*KOR-105	Division of Rehabilitation and Health, National Rehabilitation Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation	Dr Wanho Kim Dr Unjoo Kim Ms Jiin Kim
SIN-16	Blood Services Group, Health Sciences Authority	WHO Collaborating Centre for Transfusion Medicine	Dr Hwee Huang Tan
*SIN-17	Food Laboratory, Health Sciences Authority	WHO Collaborating Centre for Food Contamination Monitoring	Ms Sheot Harn Chan
*SIN-21	Health Promotion Board (HPB)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	Ms Yi Ling Lee Mr Isaac Yee
SIN-25	Pharmaceutical Division, Applied Sciences Group, Health Sciences Authority	WHO Collaborating Centre for Medicines Quality Assurance	Ms Min Yong Yee
*SIN-26	Environmental Health Institute, National Environment Agency	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research of Arbovirus and their Associated Vectors	Ms Li Xiaoxi Dr Christina Liew
SIN-28	Centre for Biomedical Ethics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore	WHO Collaborating Centre for Bioethics	Dr Wai Loon Calvin Ho
*VTN-3	National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health (NIOEH)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health	Dr Nguyen Diep Dr Doan Hai Ngoc Ms Nguyen Huyen Trang
*VTN-4	National Hospital of Traditional Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine	Ms Doan Chi Professor Nguyen Thuan Professor Vu Nam

ANNEX 2B. List of secretariat

Name	Role
Dr Shin Young-soo	Regional Director
Dr Takeshi Kasai	Director, Programme Management
Mr Jeffery Kobza	Director, Administration and Finance
Dr Tauhid Islam	Acting Director, Communicable Diseases
Dr Peter Cowley	Acting Director, Health Systems
Dr Hai-rim Shin	Director, Noncommunicable Diseases and Health through the Life-Course
Dr Li Ailan	Regional Emergency Director, WHO Health Emergencies
Dr Liu Yunguo	WHO Representative to Cambodia
Dr Ying-Ru Lo	WHO Representative to Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Singapore
Dr Corinne Capuano	WHO Representative to the South Pacific and Director, Pacific Technical Support
Dr Kidong Park	WHO Representative to Viet Nam
Dr Angela Pratt	Executive Officer, Regional Director's Office
Dr Graham Harrison	Executive Officer, Country Support Unit
Dr Yu Lee Park	Acting Coordinator, Integrated Service Delivery
Dr Rabindra Romauld Abeyasinghe	Coordinator, Malaria, Other Vectorborne and Parasitic Diseases
Dr Naoko Ishikawa	Coordinator, HIV, Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections
Dr Socorro Escalante	Coordinator, Essential Medicines and Health Technologies
Dr Gao Jun	Coordinator, Health Intelligence and Innovation
Dr Rok Ho Kim	Coordinator, Health and the Environment
Dr Howard Sobel	Coordinator, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
Ms Glenda Gonzales	Technical Officer, Tropical Disease Research and Laboratory QA
Dr Aya Yajima	Technical Officer, Neglected Tropical Diseases and Programme Integration
Dr Ogochukwu Chukwujekwu	Technical Officer, Integrated Service Delivery
Dr Indrajit Hazarika	Technical Officer, Health Workforce Policy
Ms Nittita Prasopa-Plaizier	Technical Officer, Education and Capacity Development
Ms Mary Ann Gamilla	Administrative Officer, Fellowships and Collaborating Centre Management
Dr Darryl Barrett	Technical Lead, Disabilities and Rehabilitation
Ms Riitta-Maija Hämäläinen	Technical Officer, Health Promotion
Dr Warrick Junsuk Kim	Medical Officer, Noncommunicable Diseases Management and Surveillance

Name	Role
Dr Juliawati Untoro	Technical Lead, Nutrition
Dr Martin Vandendyck	Technical Lead, Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Dr Masaya Kato	Programme Area Manager, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and International Health Regulation
Mr Peter Hoejskov	Technical Officer, Food Safety
Dr Rodel Nodora	Technical Officer, Collaboration, Partnership and Reform
Ms Chandani Thapa	Technical Lead, Information Products and Services
Ms Kwak Minjoo	Programme Management Officer, Noncommunicable Diseases and Health through the Life-Course
Ms Laura Davison	Programme Management Officer, Country Support Unit
Ms Minh Ly Nguyen	Administrative Services Officer
Ms Tatiana Titova	Technical Officer, WHO Collaborating Centres Team, WHO Headquarters
Mr Fabio Di Cera Paternostro	External Relations Officer, Partnership and Non-State Actors, WHO Headquarters
Ms Laila Bunoan	Senior Administrative Assistant, Integrated Service Delivery
Ms Arlene Garcia-Esplana	Administrative Assistant, Regional Director's Office
Ms Jennifer Eleccion	Assistant, Country Support Unit
Ms Ruby Dela Pena	Administrative Assistant, Travel
Mr Efren Bernardo	Informatics Assistant
Ms Jacqueline Castro	Assistant, Travel
Ms Maria Riza Conales	Assistant, Travel
Mr Ricky Escuadra	Assistant Technician, Meeting Support Services
Mr Jose de Guzman	Assistant, Meeting Support Services
Nguyen Thi Hong Van	Administrative Assistant, Viet Nam Country Office
Dam Nhan Ai	Assistant, Viet Nam Country Office
Hoang Kim Ngan	Secretary, Viet Nam Country Office
Ms Thu Thuy Nguyen	Assistant, Viet Nam Country Office
Nguyen Thi Huong Giang	Assistant, Viet Nam Country Office

ANNEX 3. Summary of outcomes of breakout sessions 3 and 7

3.1 Technical breakout sessions (3 and 7)

A. Communicable diseases

A1. Tuberculosis / HIV, hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections

Facilitators: Dr Tauhid Islam and Dr Naoko Ishikawa

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- The Regional Forum facilitated close collaborations with WHO and across collaborating centres, which resulted in more collaborative activities at regional and country levels.
- Challenges include resource mobilizations for collaborating centres activities, complication/unfriendly web systems to submit annual report and redesignations.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Capacity development at country level as well as identification/mobilization of resources.
- Understanding country needs and taking approaches to influence country policy, including the involvement of stakeholders at country level.
- Application and use of mobile phone networks to supplement weak infrastructure at country level.
- Tailor-made country support based on each country's capacities and needs: fact sheet on country priorities / reader-friendly version for collaborating centres.
- Regular planning and monitoring of activities to be jointly conducted by WHO and collaborating centre (and with other WHO CCs where possible) e.g. joint mission.
- Clear guidance, suggestions, plans and coordination from WHO that reflect country needs and reflect areas of cross-cutting work with other programmes and collaborating centres e.g. a formation of 'virtual situation room' where country issues can be discussed and coordinated (involving WHO at country and regional levels, different technical areas and different collaborating centres working in that country).

A2. Malaria, other vector-borne and neglected tropical diseases

Facilitators: Dr Rabindra Abeyasinghe, Dr Aya Yajima and Dr Glenda Gonzalez

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- WHO CCs work beyond their terms of reference and endeavour to reach as many Member States in the Western Pacific Region and other WHO Regions.
- Collaborating centres have discussed how they could work collaboratively with each other to enhance country support.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Strengthening surveillance and laboratory diagnostic capacity, particularly at sub-national level, which continue to be a challenge

- Identify additional resources and more innovative actions (e.g. collaborations between centres) to address challenges.
- Identify strengths and capacity of each collaborating centres and explore how to complement each other's work.

B. Health Systems

B1. Access to medicines & health technologies, strengthening regulatory capacity and blood services

Facilitators: Dr Socorro Escalante and Ms Nittita Prasopa-Plaizier

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- Collaboration has been established between and among collaborating centres – such as collaboration with national reference laboratories for inter-laboratory quality assessment, sharing of knowledge and expertise through international symposium, meetings or web-based platforms.
- Collaborating centres have requested WHO to create more opportunities and/or platforms for collaboration to support countries and implement regional agenda. Examples of these platforms would be pooling of experts to contribute to the standardization of pharmaceutical testings; regional platform for sharing vigilance reports and regulatory actions.
- Country support has been well established in current terms of reference and workplans of the collaborating centres, for examples, support to countries on strengthening of national regulatory systems, improving laboratory capacity, improving blood safety, providing support to countries in improving pharmaceutical policies and evidenced-based selection process for medicines.
- Current activities of collaborating centres are directly linked to the strategic directions of WHO and the GPW13.
- Challenges included many priorities and limited resources.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Develop or adapt guidance, guidelines and reference standards - examples guidance or guidelines for health technology assessment (HTA), for health interventions and diagnostics, for antibiotic stewardship programme; reference standards for test methods or biological standardization.
- Generate evidence and knowledge – economic and social impact evaluation, joint evaluations of priority services or products.
- Education, training, capacity building – e.g. workshops on health technology assessment, advocacy through fora and meetings; training on drug quality assurance, monitoring of adverse effects such as (VigilanceSingapore).
- Strengthen collaboration for sharing of knowledge and expertise – e.g. sharing expertise for developing reference standards, resources for quality control for blood products, blood transfusion practices.
- Contribution to support low and middle-income countries – e.g. support to Pacific countries.

B2. Health systems, information & evidence and National health policies, strategies and plans

Facilitators: Dr Gao Jun

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- Optimising support to countries requires collaborating centres to better understand the needs of countries and WHO to better understand the potential of collaboration centres.
- Link the proposed contributions of collaborating centres to country's context and needs.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- WHO and collaborating centres should regularly communicate to facilitate better understanding of country needs and context; WHO focal person regularly visit the collaborating centres to exchange ideas.
- Collaborating centres should regularly join technical meetings on specific fields
- WHO should have knowledge of collaborating centres potential and ability - develop a list of expertise of collaborating centres.
- Where possible, build up joint team of WHO both regional and country offices, collaborating centres and country partners to better link with country needs and context
- Promote collaboration among collaborating centres within and across countries using combined approach, including web-based community of practice, email exchange, face-to-face meetings etc..

B3. Integrated Service Delivery and human resources for health

Facilitators: Dr Indrajit Hazarika and Dr Ogochukwu Chukwujekwu

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- Regular communication between and among collaborating centres and responsible officers.
- Discussions and progress on joint collaborative work between and among collaborating centres - e.g. joint research in Advance Practice Nurses in Western Pacific Region, joint capacity workshops on nursing leadership, interprofessional education, partnerships on quality and safety networks.
- Better alignment of collaborating centres 'terms of reference' with country-level priorities

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Continued efforts to improve communication and collaboration between and among WHO CCs.
- Better access to information regarding the broader work and capacities of each institution designated as a WHO CCs.
- More information sharing regarding WHO's strategic direction and priorities.
- Strengthen health workforce regulation via the Western Pacific Region Network of Regulators including in-country support.
- Support to improve quality and safety of health services via the collaborative networks and capacity building.
- Support on strengthening health professional education reforms.
- Strengthen primary health care via support on design of service delivery models as well as the health workforce component.

- Support to on-going activities such as advocacy for Nursing Now! Campaign, data collection and dissemination of the State of the World Nursing and State of the Midwifery Reports.
- Improve collaboration between WHO and collaborating centres for effective country support through regular communication and joint collaboration between and among collaborating centres.
- Make available more information on agenda items of the Regional Committee sessions and role of collaborating centres in contributing to their development and implementation.
- Collaborate to jointly organize workshops to build capacity for countries in the region in library, publications management and dissemination.
- Build capacity in the region around digital dissemination; learn among collaborating centres new digital techniques of dissemination.
- Through collaborating centres website, to promote national and regional networking among collaborating centres.
- Collaborate to better communicate the impact of the work of collaborating centres.

B. 4 Traditional medicine

Facilitator: Dr Yu Lee Park

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- More active communication and engagement between WHO and collaborating centres to share updates and explore collaborative activities through various channels including e-mails, teleconferences, physical visits and participation in relevant WHO meetings. Many collaborating centres participated in relevant WHO meetings based on their expertise and terms of references.
- Efforts were made to align collaborating centres activities with priorities of the traditional medicine programme in the Western Pacific Region. For instance, the program for the 7th Joint Symposium-WHO Collaborating Centres for Traditional Medicine, held on 1 November 2018 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, was developed in close collaboration between WHO and the participating collaborating centres.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Priorities identified at the Technical Consultation on Medium-Term Agenda on Traditional Medicine for Universal Health Coverage in the Western Pacific Region held in Manila, Philippines on 28-29 June 2018 were shared with collaborating centres for traditional medicine.
- Key collaborative areas were identified as the following:
- Strengthening regulation for traditional medicine;
- Improving monitoring system for traditional medicine; and
- Improving evidence-based traditional medicine practice.
- Discussions on maximizing collaborating centres contribution WHO's support to Member States in advancing UHC through appropriate integration of traditional medicine in the national health systems.
- There was agreement on the next actions to improve strategic collaboration as follows:

- Improve efficient information sharing –led by a collaborating centre, to develop regular newsletters to update WHO and collaborating centres on key achievements and issues and to organize teleconferences between WHO and collaborating centres as needed.
- Develop a report on regulatory status of traditional and complementary medicine practitioners and to develop a set of indicators for traditional and complementary medicine in the coming years. These will be part of future collaboration among collaborating centres.
- WHO will closely communicate with collaborating centres to provide information and updates regarding country situations and needs to develop country-tailored training programmes and other relevant activities.

**C. Noncommunicable diseases and health through the life-course
(Tobacco Free Initiative; Nutrition; Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health; Health and the Environment; Disabilities and Rehabilitation)**

Key messages and highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- There's a need to strengthen the linkages between WHO Regional office and country offices and collaborating centres, recognising the coordination role mechanism of the regional office.
- To support countries better, WHO Collaborating centres could provide a “menu of strengths” based on their individual situations linked to WHO workplans and country support plans.
- Issues for consideration include approaches for dealing with different needs of countries and how to obtain resources to support activities – lobbying government for direct support to collaborating centres, funding through other mechanisms outside direct support to WHO or research grants.
- Mechanisms for supporting countries may include considering collaborating centres as ‘technical arm’ of the technical unit and make joint efforts for fund raising or resource mobilization.
- Improve internal collaboration e.g. within and between technical units when considering a collaborating centre for in-country work
- Encourage collaborating centres to consider how they can ‘together’ offer support to countries

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Enhance bilateral communication between collaborating centres and WHO, including through annual visits to institutions for better coordination of joint in-country activities to support on tobacco free initiative work.
- Build a Regional health promotion online community focusing on multisectoral cooperation in different topics and settings.
- Improve information and expertise sharing between and across collaborating centres and WHO on nutrition related work e.g. websites.
- Translate collaborating centres activities into mental health services at community level. Collaborating centres on mental health and substance abuse will provide ongoing technical support to countries, developing innovative partnerships, and matching country needs and priorities with specific technical expertise, in order to ensure service coverage.
- WHO to bridge evidence with policies on health and environment to prioritize countries.

- Link within and across countries and across WHO levels to provide a platform to work effectively on maternal and child health and adolescent health.
- Provide a “menu of strengths” based on countries needs and situations, linked to WHO workplans and country support plans on disabilities and rehabilitation.
- Proactively share information with collaborating centres - on country activities, on country needs, on relevant links or websites about WHO country information; using various tools, including an Email list (e.g. list serve), annual meetings etc.

D. Health security and food safety

Facilitators: Mr Peter Sousa Hoejskov and Dr Masaya Kato

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- Strong engagement of collaborating centres in regional framework development and implementation monitoring.
- Enhanced needs-based country support through training and technical assistance.
- Improved communication and coordination of activities between Collaborating Centres and WHO Secretariat.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

Effective country support requires WHO and collaborating centres to:

- Respond to country priorities and needs in line with WHO’s strategic direction;
- Provide technical support and strategic guidance in a timely manner;
- Understand the local context and use an appropriate approach for capacity strengthening; and
- Recognize the strengths of respective CC and informally communicate and coordinate country support.

Potential ways to improve collaboration between Collaborating Centres and WHO Secretariat for effective country support include:

- Identification of strengths of individual CCs and review TORs and workplans to better address country needs.
- Enhanced engagement of WHO CCs for the joint consultative planning and implementation of country tailored health security and food safety activities.
- Utilization of real world emergency events as opportunities and learning for enhanced collaboration between CCs and WHO Secretariat.
- Strengthening of informal communication and interaction between CCs and WHO Responsible Officers including participation in regional and international meetings and events.
- Joint provision of country support in line with regional frameworks and country support plans.
- monitoring of country-based collaborative efforts and after action reviews for continuous improvement of collaboration between CCs and WHO Secretariat.

- Joint advocacy and mobilization of resources for country support activities in line with country needs and priorities.

E. Library and Publications (Strategic communications)

Facilitator: Ms Chandani Thapa

Highlights of progress and lessons since the second Regional Forum in 2016:

- Regular communication between WHO and collaborating centres
- Discussion and progress on joint collaborative work between and among collaborating centres, for example the joint contributions to the upcoming Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors Convention (APAME) conference in Beijing 2019.
- Better understanding of country priorities and alignment of work.
- Although together collaborating centres and WHO do good work that has a positive impact on the region, there are still few countries and institutions know about the work. More efforts to better communicate the impact of the will be needed.

Priority areas for strategic collaboration and actions to enhance collaboration for effective country support:

- Provide health-related information that supports public health outcomes. Their work cross-cuts through all sectors and regions and the more efficient, up-to-date and regionally relevant, the better they can support public health knowledge transfer and uptake.
- Identify synergy and shared interest and work together across the regions and in-country to achieve more than just their terms of references; to learn from each others' experiences and promote forums and platforms to be better able to support countries.
- Collaborating centres based in Beijing contribute significantly to the WHO-supported Western Pacific Region Index Medicus (WPRIM) and the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors Convention. There will be discussing about joint projects with Seoul National University.

ANNEX 4. Field visits: summary of key discussions

1. Cho Ray Hospital - Emergency Department, Infection Prevention and Control Department

- This is a big urban hospital with 1,800 beds and about 5,200 patients per day (out-patients and in-patient admissions).
- Key discussions centred around expertise and challenges associated with the management of the above departments, procedures for patient management, emergency and disaster management, autonomous funding arrangements for the functioning of the hospital.
- The discussions enabled the participants (collaborating centres) to understand challenges faced by WHO in supporting Member States. The authorities in the hospital were appreciative of the opportunity to meet WHOCC participants.

2. Children's hospital #2 - Outpatient clinic, Newborn Care unit and Neonatal Care unit

- This is one of the biggest paediatric hospitals in the southern region of Viet Nam with 150 years of history, 6,000 outpatients, 1,500 inpatients and 100 surgeries every day. The hospital also provides training for other provinces on neonatal and newborn care. Major challenges faced by the hospital included a lack of well-trained doctors and nurses, technical difficulties in dealing with patients with varying socio-economic status, level of knowledge and age, and high patient –doctor ratios.
- One of the solutions being implemented to address the challenges is to actively receive exchanges of doctors and medical students from other countries, such as Japan, USA and European countries. This helps enhance knowledge exchange, supplement human resources gap and provides an opportunity for health professionals or students from other countries to learn about real situation in hospitals in low-resource setting.

3. Co Giang Commune Health Station

- This commune health station is under District 1 Health Center. It covers the area of 0.39km², serving 14,500 population. There are seven staff, including 1 doctor and 1 nurse. Key health issues in the area included NCDs, communicable diseases (dengue, hand foot and mouth disease – HFMD), TB, HIV, mental health and food safety. Key services focus on primary health care, preventive medicine programmes (Expanded Programme on Immunization, maternal and child health, disease surveillance etc.), health examinations, rehabilitation, health promotion, and outbreak response.
- Health workforce is a major challenge. There is only one doctor covering many programmes. It is difficult to attract doctors to work at commune level. Other challenges include limited supplies of medicines. Low use of medical equipment and policies are inadequate to support work at the commune level. Potential areas that collaborating centres can support are the development of health workforce, with a focus on primary health care, help explore innovation to improve access to medicines or other essential health products at the primary care level as well as support capacity for policy development.

4. District 1 Health Center - Vaccination Unit, Maternal Care, Mother & Child Nutrition, Family Planning Unit, Laboratory/examination rooms and medical imaging)

- The District 1 Health Center provides a variety of services, which located in 4 separate buildings. Due to limited time, the field visit focused on services in one building. Participants were interested in overall health system in Viet Nam, including health insurance coverage, health professionals workforce etc. The discussions also covered how the services, coverage and the family medicine principles would be affected once the District Health Center is merged with the District Hospital in 2019.
- It might be difficult for the participants (collaborating centres) to work at district level as they are highly specialized in specific technical areas. Some collaborating centres may be able to provide support to build capacities of human resources for health.

5. Pasteur institute - National Influenza Centre and Enterovirus Lab

- Brief introduction of the institution by the host in a conference room. The main functions of the institute include: outbreak investigation, research, training and international collaboration. Summary of recent infectious diseases outbreaks and surveillance systems (electronic communicable disease surveillance system – eCDS) in Viet Nam were presented. The institution requested support from WHO CCs on training and capacity development, including collaborative research (e.g. development of diagnostics). The institution is interested in becoming a WHO collaborating centre in the future. Dr Ailan provided a brief guidance on the process (of becoming a WHO collaborating centre). Capacity development of young professionals from the institution was discussed and a few approaches were suggested by WHO.

6. University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City - Center for Molecular Biomedicine

- Discussions focused on implementation challenges, such as implementation challenges of education reform. WHO CCs were encouraged to identify opportunities for collaboration in different ways or target groups, such as student exchanges, faculty development and policy-makers.

ANNEX 5A. Awarded collaborating centres

For Recognition of Distinguished Forum Posters

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre
CHN-32	Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine
CHN-114	Department of Vector Biology and Control, National Institute for Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Vector Surveillance and Management
CHN-118	Health Publishing Research and Development Center, People's Medical Publishing House	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Information and Publishing
JPN-87	Research Centre for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Zoonosis Control
MAA-14	Institute for Health Systems Research, Ministry of Health	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research and Quality Improvement

For Recognition of Effective Collaboration

Reference number	Name of Institution	Title of Collaborating Centre
CHN-117	Institute for Biological Product Control (IBPC), National Institutes for Food and Drug Control (NIFDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals
JPN-28	Department of Quality Assurance and Radiological Protection, National Institute of Infectious Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals
KOR-90	National Institute of Food and Drug Safety Evaluation (NIFDSE), Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Standardization and Evaluation of Biologicals

Special Regional Director Award

SIN-26	Environmental Health Institute, National Environment Agency	WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research of Arbovirus and their Associated Vectors
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ANNEX 5B. Collaborating centres receiving plaques

(First time participation in the Regional Forum)

Reference Number	Full institution name	WHO Collaborating Centre title
AUS-70	Queensland Mycobacterium Reference Laboratory (QMRL), Pathology Queensland Central Laboratory at Royal Brisbane Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tuberculosis Bacteriology
AUS-122	Asia Pacific Centre for Work, Health and Safety, University of South Australia	WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health
AUS-128	Health Systems Improvement Unit, Centre for Population Health Research, School of Health and Social Development, Faculty of Health, Deakin University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Literacy
AUS-130	Noncommunicable Disease Control Unit, Centre for Health Equity, School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne	WHO Collaborating Centre for Implementation Research for Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases
AUS-131	College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, Division of Tropical Health and Medicine, James Cook University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Vectorborne and Neglected Tropical Diseases
AUS-133	Public Health Interventions Research Group, Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales	WHO Collaborating Centre for Trachoma
AUS-135	General Practice Unit, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales	WHO Collaborating Centre for eHealth
AUS-137	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Workforce Regulation
CHN-11	Guangdong Provincial Cardiovascular Institute	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Cardiovascular Diseases
CHN-32	Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine
CHN-35	Institute of Clinical Research and Information, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine
CHN-57	Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training on Tuberculosis
CHN-64	Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (CAMS)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Control of Hereditary Diseases
CHN-102	Office of the Shanghai Municipal Health Promotion Committee	WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urbanization
CHN-125	China National Health Development Research Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Classifications, Terminologies and Standards
CHN-127	China National Health Development Research Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Strengthening
CHN-129	School of Nursing, Peking Union Medical College	WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Policy-Making and Leadership
CHN-130	Institute of Parasitic Diseases (IPD), Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tropical Diseases
CHN-131	Health Bureau, Macao SAR Government	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine

Reference Number	Full institution name	WHO Collaborating Centre title
CHN-133	Tobacco Medicine and Tobacco Cessation Centre, Institute of Respiratory Medicine, China-Japan Friendship Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Tobacco Cessation and Respiratory Diseases Prevention
CHN-137	Evidence Based Medicine Center, Lanzhou University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Guideline Implementation and Knowledge Translation
JPN-93	Department of Virology II, National Institute of Infectious Diseases	WHO Collaborating Centre for Virus Reference and Research (Enteroviruses)
JPN-95	Department of Internal Medicine/ Hepatology and Gastroenterology, Kanazawa University Hospital, Kanazawa University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Chronic Hepatitis and Liver Cancer
JPN-96	Fukushima Global Medical Science Center, Fukushima Medical University	WHO Collaborating Centre for Radiation Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery
KOR-103	Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Community, Yongin Mental Hospital	WHO Collaborating Centre for Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Mental Health
KOR-105	Division of Rehabilitation and Health, National Rehabilitation Center	WHO Collaborating Centre for Rehabilitation
VTN-4	National Hospital of Traditional Medicine	WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine

ANNEX 6. Outcome Statement of the Third Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, 22–23 November 2018

The Third WHO Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific brought together 240 people from 140 collaborating centres across ten countries, in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam on 22-23 November 2018.

The Forum reaffirmed the critical role of collaborating centres in making an impact at the country level. Partnership is essential to WHO's work in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals and the three central goals of WHO's Thirteenth General Programme of Work.

Achieving results at the country can only be possible if support is driven by country needs and priorities with a good understanding of the political, socio-cultural and economic context of each country. Utilizing effective partnerships, networks and multisectoral collaboration is vital.

The Forum notes that there has been significant progress since the First Forum in 2014:

- WHO and collaborating centres now work together more effectively, better understanding each other's needs and operating more like an extended family
- Collaborating centres have developed close relationships with each other and found benefit in working together across the region. The Forum learned from the exemplary work of Japan and the Republic of Korea and the networks their collaborating centres have formed.
- More collaborating centres are now involved in providing support at the country level.

The Forum recognizes that progress in health for the attainment of the SDGs requires a multisectoral, whole-of-society approach at the country level, which requires going outside of traditional ways of working.

Through informative sessions such as field visits and country specific sessions, the Third Forum enabled better understanding of countries and their contexts. As a result, the Forum agreed to:

- a. Strengthen information sharing between WHO and collaborating centres to better understand country context and needs;
- b. Improve coordination to align collaborating centre activities with country priorities and WHO's strategies and frameworks in order to maximize impact at country level;
- c. Further develop ways of working together, such as the establishment and leverage of technical networks at the country and regional level, in order to strengthen knowledge and resource sharing and synergies;
- d. Share progress and good practices, and better communicate the value of WHO and collaborating centre partnerships; and
- e. Reconvene in 2020 to review the outcomes of the partnership of WHO and WHO collaborating centres consistent with the identified priorities.

World Regional Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres in the Western Pacific

22–23 November 2018 • Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam



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