

**ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network** 

ASEAN+3 FETN\_Coordinating Office | Bureau of Epidemiology, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Permanent Secretary Office, Building 4 Ministry of Public Health, Tiwanon Road, Nonthaburi 11000 Thailand Tel: +66 2590 1733-35 Ext. 123 Fax: +66 2591 8581 E-mail: aseanplusthreefetn@gmail.com Website: www.aseanplus3fetn.net

## **ASEAN+3 FETN NEWS**

- Activity: Workshop on Strengthening Ebola Preparedness and Joint Response among ASEAN+3 FETN Member Countries
- Date: 1-3 December 2014

Venue: Ambassador Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

## **Description:**



## **Background**

With the concern on threat of imported Ebola cases and possible local transmission, ASEAN+3 Member Countries agreed to share practical aspects of surveillance and control and identify mechanism of multi-country collaboration which is important to trace cases and contacts associated with international travel. Referring to "The Joint Multi-sectoral Outbreak Investigation and Response in ASEAN (ASEAN JMOIR)" endorsed by the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Health Minister Meeting and revised at 7<sup>th</sup> AEGCD in November 2012, sharing information of an outbreak to those in the neighboring countries or any country could be done on an informal and/or a formal basis in order that effective investigation and/or response could be employed in that country as necessary.



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In this aspect, the "Workshop on Strengthening Ebola Preparedness and Joint Response among ASEAN+3 FETN Member Countries" was conducted under the support of World Health Organization (WHO), United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US.CDC) and Canadian Global Partnership Program (CGPP). Republic of Korea regretfully could not join the meeting due to other commitment while the other 12 member countries participated in this workshop.

## **Objectives**

General objective: To strengthen Ebola preparedness among ASEAN+3 FETN Member Countries in the areas of surveillance, investigation and control

Specific objectives:

- 1. To facilitate and promote sharing of experiences, lessons learned and technical instruments/guidelines for Ebola preparedness and response among the Member Countries
- 2. To strengthen information sharing and joint response on Ebola imported case (s) among the Member Countries for early detection and containment

During this 3-day workshop, participants from member countries and international development partners discussed on issues of mutual concern, and drafted the recommendations including immediate efforts and long term response. Recommended actions focused on information sharing, joint response preparation, and joint capacity building; the contact list of focal points for informal communication on Ebola response was obtained; list of essential data needed for sharing were produced and documented; an joint Ebola simulation exercise workshop was proposed.

The recommendations from this workshop have been endorsed by ASEAN+3 Health Minister Meeting on Ebola Response, 14-15 December 2014, Bangkok.

