



**The 6th Meeting of the Greater Mekong Subregion
Working Group on Health Cooperation
13-15 December 2023**

New World Beijing Hotel, People's Republic of China

CONCEPT NOTE

The Sixth Meeting of the Greater Mekong Subregion Working Group on Health Cooperation (GMS-WGHC 6) will be held in Beijing from 13 to 15 December 2023. The meeting will (i) discuss the consolidated feedback on the draft Regional Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030 and agree on any outstanding issues or concerns; (ii) explore opportunities for increasing engagement with the private sector, including the use of Public-Private Partnerships, and local government authorities; (iii) explore opportunities for collaboration between the GMS-WGHC and ASEAN through the ASEAN Health Cluster Workplans and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration; (iv) present selected research areas for collaboration between the GMS Trade Facilitation Group and the GMS Health Sector Group; (v) discuss the pipeline of health sector investments and technical assistance projects; (vi) present the draft concept paper for Technical Assistance 2024-2029; and (vii) agree on the timeline for the launch of the strategy.

Regional health cooperation is a priority for the countries of the GMS and an integral part of the GMS Economic Cooperation Program Strategic Framework 2030 (GMS-2030). The GMS Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030 is intended as a tool to guide programming, foster innovation, increase engagement with the private sector, and mobilize new project financing to support the GMS health stakeholders' vision for health cooperation in the subregion.

The key drivers of the strategy over the next seven years include the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the subregion, the ongoing risks associated with climate change, private sector engagement and the targets for UHC.

AGENDA

Date	Topic	Objectives Presenter/Facilitator
Day 1, Wednesday, 13 December 2023, Venue: Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor		
8:30–9:00	Registration	In-charge: Marissa Espiritu
9:00 – 9:10	<p>Welcome remarks from the host country (5 mins).</p> <p>Opening remarks from ADB Resident Mission (5 mins).</p>	<p>Dr. He Zhaohua, Acting Director General of Department of International Cooperation (TBC)</p> <p>Mr. Safdar Parvez, Country Director, PRC Resident Mission</p> <p>Master of Ceremony (MC): Dr Kyi Thar, Consultant ADB</p>
9:10 – 9:30	<p>Session 1: Outline of the meeting including objectives and self-introduction of participants</p>	Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB
9:30 – 10:20	<p>Session 2: Update on the development of the Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030</p> <p>10 min presentation followed by participant discussion and group work on the strategic pillars</p>	<p>This session will discuss feedback on the zero draft of the Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030.</p> <p>Participants will then work together in their country groups to discuss the strategic pillars, programming areas and activities.</p> <p>Presenter/Facilitator: Dr Megan Counahan, Consultant ADB</p>
10:20 – 10:40	Coffee/tea break: Coffee Bar adjacent to the meeting room (Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor)	

10:40 – 11:00	Session 2 continued: Update on the development of the Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030	Summary discussion from the group work on the strategic pillars, programming areas and activities.
11:00 – 11:25	Session 3: Presentation of World Health Organization's (Draft) Asia Pacific Health Security Framework 10 min presentation followed by 15 min discussion	In October 2023, Health Ministers and senior officials from countries and areas across the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region endorsed a regional action framework to strengthen health security. This session will present and discuss the WHO's draft Asia Pacific Health Security Framework . Presenter: Ms Qui Yi Khut, Technical Officer – Public Health Emergency Preparedness, WHO Health Emergencies Programme (WHE) Facilitator: Dr Megan Counahan, Consultant ADB
11:25 – 12:00	Session 4: Discuss opportunities for increased engagement with the private sector and take a closer look at examples of Public Private Partnerships including demonstrating examples of working with the private sector on health infrastructure. 15 min presentation followed by 20 min Q&A session	Despite its significant role in the economies of the GMS countries, the private sector's potential, as a driver of inclusive economic growth, remains unutilized. Historically, the GMS Program has had weak private sector participation in the health sector. This session aims to identify and map out ways for broader, deeper, and more proactive engagement of the private sector including a closer look at examples of Public Private Partnerships. Presenter: Mr. Mischa Lentz, Senior Urban Development Specialist (Finance & Investment), ADB Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB
12:00 – 1:30	Buffet Lunch: Tian Tan Kitchen at 1st floor lobby	
1:30 – 2:15	Session 5: Engaging sub-national authorities and local government in GMS Health Cooperation 5 min presentation 40 min small group discussion and feedback	GMS-2030 aims to transform the GMS program to facilitate more active engagement of the local government authorities. In this session participants will explore opportunities for engaging local government in GMS Health Cooperation programming Presenter/Facilitator: Mr. Alistair Briscoombe, Consultant ADB

2:15 – 3:00	<p>Session 6: Collaboration between the GMS WGHC and ASEAN Health Clusters</p> <p>15 min presentation, 30 min Facilitated discussion and Q&A session</p>	<p>GMS-2030 looks to expand cooperation beyond the subregion, to collaborate with other regional programs. This session will explore opportunities for linking GMS health cooperation activities with ASEAN's Health Cluster work programmes</p> <p>Presenter: Dr. Rattanaxay Phetsouvanh, Director General Department of Communicable Diseases Control, Lao PDR</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB</p>
3:00 – 3:20	Coffee/tea break: Coffee Bar adjacent to the meeting room (Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor)	
3:25 – 4:10	<p>Session 7: Regional Technical Assistance for the implementation of the Regional Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030</p> <p>10 min presentation followed by 40 min Q&A session.</p>	<p>This session will outline the draft concept for the Technical Assistance for implementing the Regional Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030 - it will include discussions and group work on the future of the workplans, monitoring and evaluation, and the function of the WGHC and Secretariat.</p> <p>Presenter/Facilitator: Dr Megan Counahan, Consultant ADB</p>
4:10 – 4:20	Quiz Master Dr Kyi Thar – How is your GMS knowledge?	
4:20– 4:30	Group Photo	
6:00-8:00	Dinner: Private dining room at Gallery 203, 2nd floor	
Day 2: Thursday, 14 December 2023, Venue: Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor		
9:30 – 10:00	<p>Session 8: Updating on the broader GMS Programme</p> <p>30 min of interactive presentation</p>	<p>This session will discuss recent meetings, GMS strategies, the upcoming Leaders' Summit and ministerial meeting as well building a stronger Regional Investment Framework (2023-2025).</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Pinsuda Alexander Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p> <p>Facilitator: Dr Kyi Thar , Consultant ADB</p>
10:00– 10:20	Coffee/tea break: Coffee Bar adjacent to the meeting room (Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor)	

10:30 – 12:00	Session 9: Mysterious treasure hunt	Welcome to the New World Hotel Beijing Scavenger Hunt Get ready for an exciting adventure as you explore the luxurious surroundings of the hotel. Can the participants of the GMS-WGHC 6 pool their collective thinking, work collaboratively and creativity to solve the puzzle? What treasure awaits?
12:00-1:30	Lunch: Tian Tan Kitchen at 1st, floor lobby	
1:30 – 2:00	Session 10: Working with the GMS Task Force on Trade and Investment 15 min presentation followed by 15 min Q&A	The GMS Task Force on Trade and Investment will present selected research areas for collaboration with the GMS Working Groups to (i) address challenges in inter-agency coordination, (ii) lift or mitigate non-tariff barriers to trade medical supplies, or (iii) identify investment opportunities to enhance goods traceability. Presenter: Mr. Yuya Yamamoto, Trade Specialist, ADB Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB
2:00 – 2:30	Session 11: Building resilient health systems towards Global Communities of Health for All	National Health Commission will discuss building resilient health systems towards Global Communities of Health for All Presenter: Dr. Wang Yunping, Researcher, Deputy Director of Department of Health Strategy and Global Health Research, National Health Development Research Center (TBC) Facilitator: Dr Kyi Thar , consultant, ADB
2:30 – 3:15	Session 12: Climate Change in Health - key message from COP28	UN Climate Change conferences (or COP) take place each year - the world comes together to agree on ways to address the climate crisis. This session will provide an update on COP28. Presenter: Mr Brian Riley, Senior Health Specialist ADB Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB
3:15 – 3:30	Coffee/tea break: Coffee Bar adjacent to the meeting room (Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor)	
3:30 – 5:00	Session 13: Hearing from the development partners	This session will hear from the development partners – we will discuss and try to map out ways for broader, deeper, and more proactive

	<p>A series of short presentations from the partners followed by discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.40-3.50 Global Fund: Ms. Izaskun Gavira & Mr Matteo Dembach • 3.50-4.00 IOM: Ms. Parco and Dr Inkochasan • 4.00-4.10 JICA: Ms. Yui Yoshii • 4.10-4.20 Presentation behalf of KfW: • 4.20-4.30 AIIB: Kazuhiro Nomoto 	<p>engagement with the development partners including AIIB, US-CDC, WHO, the Global Fund, and others.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving, ADB and Dr Kyi Thar, Consultants</p>
Day 3, Friday, 15 Dec 2023; Venue: Gallery 205-206, 2nd floor		
9:10 – 9:30	<p>Session 14:</p> <p>Planning requirements for the Leader’s Summit meeting in Beijing, Q4, 2024</p>	<p>This session will discuss the necessary actions and steps needed to present the Regional Health Cooperation Strategy 2024-2030 and the Regional Technical Assistance for Strengthening Health Cooperation in the GMS at the Leader’s Summit meeting in Beijing in 2024.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Rikard Elfving Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB</p>
9:30-10:00	<p>Session 15:</p> <p>Summary of Day 1 and Day 2</p>	<p>This session will discuss the key agreement plans and decisions from the WGHC-6 and confirm the location for WGHC-7. Also provide an opportunity for any other business</p> <p>Facilitators: Strategy Development Focal point and WGHC Secretariat</p>
10:00 – 10:20	Coffee/tea break: Coffee Bar adjacent to the meeting room (Gallery 201-202, 2nd floor)	
10:20 – 10:45	<p>Session 16:</p> <p>Theme and date for the 7th Annual Meeting of the GMS WGHC in 2024 in Lao PDR</p>	<p>Facilitator: Dr Kyi Thar, consultant, ADB</p>
11:50 -12:00	Closing remarks	Mr. Rikard Elfving Principal Social Sector Specialist, ADB and GMS Country Representatives
12:00-1:30	Lunch Tian Tan Kitchen at 1st floor lobby	