

**PROPOSED
ASIA-PACIFIC CONSULTATIVE MEETING
14-15 November 2001
Bangkok, Thailand**

Background

Asia and Pacific are the world most populous regions with 60 percent share of the world's population. For China and India alone, they account for around 36 percent of global population. Although true that the rates of HIV infection, TB and Malaria in Asia are in general lower than the rates in African region, but they are increasing in an alarming pace. With such huge number of population even low rate means large number of people living with the diseases. In India, for example, rate of HIV infection in 0.7 percent which means that 3.7 million people, the second largest number in the world, are now living with HIV/AIDS.

To help reduce the burden of diseases in every part of the world including Asia and Pacific regions due to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM) has been established to attract additional and complementary resources in a public-private partnership basis. Since the Fund will be country-led processes, country consultation will provide necessary information for preparation arrangements to operationalise the Fund.

There are diversification in terms of culture, behavior pattern, health system, health care facilities and infrastructure and how they respond to the epidemic at both intra- and inter-region. Thus Asia Pacific country consultation will provide specific country level input, experiences and views on how the Fund should operate at country level from Asia and Pacific perspective.

Objectives

The objectives of the Asia Pacific country consultation are:

- To inform countries of background and progress on establishing the Fund
- To inform countries of Title, Principles, and Scope of the Fund that agreed upon by TWG in the first meeting on 11-12 October 2001
- To identify
 - How the Fund can best match resources with priorities and needs of countries in Asia and Pacific Regions.
 - How the Fund can support the expanded coverage of prevention, care support and treatment activities for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, with a good balance among the three diseases and choices of intervention
 - Ways of effective operation in conflict or disaster situations
- To discuss issues of governance, eligibility criteria, country processes, accountability and technical review and advise process of the Fund
- To identify how to enhance comprehensive dialogue and coordination among many actors including government organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector, international organization, bilateral and multilateral collaborations at the country level in dealing with HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria and seeking supports from the Fund.

Expected Outcome

- Countries are informed and prepared to engage in the Fund when it becomes operational

- Countries contribute to their thoughts, position and suggestions as regard to the preparation documents of governance, eligibility criteria, country processes, accountability and technical review and advise process of the Fund. This will be an important input for the TWG 2nd meeting in November 2001.

Location

Bangkok, Thailand

Time

14-15 November 2001

Participants

Open ended participation by all countries in Asia and Pacific regions. It is indicated that participants include GO, NGO, Private sector and international organizations active in this field.

Host

The Government of Thailand

Organizer

Government of Thailand through Ministry of Public Health

