ASEAN Health Sector Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

‘Biodiversity and Preventing Future Pandemics’
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity Webinar Series
10:00 – 11:30 am (GMT+8), 20 May 2020

Presented by Dr. Oscar Primadi MPH
Secretary General, Ministry of Health – Indonesia, and Chair, ASEAN SOMHD
COVID-19 situation in ASEAN Region as of 19 May 2020

69,842 confirmed cases

2,220 deaths

Source: WHO Situation Report, 19 May 2020
Epidemic curves of ASEAN Member States
as of 18 May 2020 (2 pm, GMT +8)

Source: ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Centre, 18 May 2020. Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID to the ASEAN Region.
## ASEAN mechanisms and actions for coordinated COVID-19 pandemic response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ASEAN Leaders</strong></th>
<th>Provide policy guidance as reflected in statements, declarations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASEAN Coordinating Council (ACC)</strong></td>
<td>Oversees ASEAN-wide COVID-19 pandemic response; reports to and make policy recommendations to Leaders; coordinates with ASEAN Communities on policy implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACC Working Group on Public Health Emergencies</strong></td>
<td>Assists ACC; discusses implications of disease outbreaks, recommends cross-pillar and cross-sectoral response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relevant Sectoral Bodies</strong></td>
<td>Plan, implement and report sectoral efforts based on policy directions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASEAN Health Sector mechanisms and platforms mobilized for response

ASEAN Governance and Implementation Mechanism
- Health Ministers
- Senior Health Officials
- ASEAN Health Clusters

ASEAN China Health Cooperation
- Health Ministers
- Senior Health Officials

ASEAN Plus Three Health Cooperation
- Health Ministers
- Senior Health Officials

ASEAN Emergency Operations Centre Network for public health emergencies

ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Centre for big data analytics and visualisation

ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network

ASEAN Risk Assessment and Risk Communication Centre

Networks on public health laboratories, on disease surveillance; experts on communicable diseases
ASEAN Health Sector COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Measures

- Sharing of situational updates, complemented by real-time exchanges via mobile instant messaging
- Sharing of preparedness and response practices and lessons, including challenges, gaps and needs
- Regular issuance of Risk Assessment for International Dissemination of COVID-19 in the ASEAN Region
- Exchanges on laboratory readiness and response actions
- Risk communication, addressing false information
- Coordination and cooperation with other sectors, external and international partners
## Priorities in COVID-19 pandemic response, as agreed by ASEAN Health Ministers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance sharing of timely data and information</td>
<td>including reports of risk assessments, epidemiological and clinical studies, among others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate cross-border contact tracing and outbreak investigations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance cooperation in real-time capacity building amid the COVID-29 response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share technical, material and financial resources</td>
<td>critical to sustaining national health system response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance collaboration in research</td>
<td>to ensure most appropriate tools and interventions in stemming the pandemic are available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After defeating the pandemic, to work together in strengthening and institutionalizing regional mechanisms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensify cooperation on COVID-19 response</td>
<td>with Dialogue and Development Partners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ASEAN engagement with dialog partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joint Statement of APTHMM</th>
<th>Joint Statement of Health Ministers of ASEAN and the U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• to coordinate sharing of information on rapid research and development of diagnostics, antiviral medicines and vaccines</td>
<td>• to stop the global pandemic and other associated public health emergencies by enhancing preparedness, prevention, detection and response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• to provide assistance in sustaining affected national health systems in the region and improving the readiness of others using publicly well-known digital technologies for efficient exchange of information</td>
<td>• continuous technical exchanges and information sharing; joint research and development for anti-viral, diagnostics, and vaccine with relevant stakeholders; and, ensuring flow of essential medical goods and supplies including equitable access to these products</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASEAN Health Sector on biodiversity and pandemic links

Recognises the importance of biodiversity and the environment in the prevention of emerging infectious diseases and pandemics, as well as other public health priorities.

Has explored environmental, animal and human health interfaces in addressing emerging diseases, through One Health Approach.

- **In the past:** ASEAN Expert Group on Communicable Diseases, ASEAN Working Group on Pandemic Preparedness and Response, ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network

- **Recently:** ASEAN Health Cluster on Responding to All Hazards and Emerging Threats; Mitigation of Biological Threats Programme; Health Priorities on Combatting Antimicrobial Resistance and Disaster Health Management; ASEAN Health Cluster on Food Safety

Looks forward to working closely with relevant sectors, including the ASEAN Environment Sector, in further pursuing joint and integrated actions towards prevention of emerging diseases, including pandemics.
Thank you