

Brief report Timor Leste Delegation participation in WHO SEARO meeting on strengthening NCDs CSO, WHO South-East Asia, in New Delhi, 9-10th July 2015.

Executive Summary

15 July 2015

The aim of Non-Communicable Disease (NCDs) Civil Society Organization (CSO) South East Asia Region (SEAR) meeting is to review the current status at state members and sharing of experiences among regional NCD civil society organizations; strengthen the capacity of Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) civil society organizations (CSO) in forming alliances to drive advocacy, policy, and accountability; and to foster effective collaboration between CSOs within and across countries and with the Government and World Health Organization (WHO) to better support implementation of regional Non-Communicable Disease (NCDs) priorities.

At the inaugural Session: Welcoming participants and introduction objectives of the



meeting where presented to the participants by the 3 different presenter at the meeting and many more presenter with different topics as listed in the programs. More than 80 participants from 13 different countries are present at the meeting, almost 50 % participants are from across India.

The presentations (20 minute each) on Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) burden and response in South East Asia

Region (SEAR), the global NCD response and the role of civil society, the opportunity and challenge of sectoral cooperation for NCD prevention and control and draft background paper on mapping SEAR NCD CSOs were presented to stimulate the group discussions.

Three Timorese delegation were separately involved in the groups and contribute to the



discussion and learn from the experts experienced and health CSOs which have been long committed to the NCDs in their countries. The three Timorese fellows are realize and acknowledge that inter multisectoral cooperation with whole of government and whole of society in East Timor is urgent to addressing the prevalence of NCDs risk factor in East Timor's NCDs monitoring and control systems and mechanism.

The Timorese fellows are also very keen in developing networking with participants during lunch time to seek an opportunity to create a network in supporting their work in Timor Leste. Among them are Matthew Coghlan, Regional Director of International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. The fellows are sharing a Timor Leste NCDs National Action Plan Ministry of Health and Timor Leste National Alliance on Tobacco Control. The last mentioned activities have been initiated by Many Hands International and Deakin University Australia in Delta Nova Auditorium, November 2014. The Timorese participants including Sancho B. Fernandes (*National Youth Council of Timor-Leste*), Euklidis Torrezao (*Youth Unity for Community Progress*) and Thomas Lopes (*Many Hands International-Deakin University*) have very strong commitment to collaboratively working together to organizing and realize Timor Leste National Alliance Tobacco Control as initiation to Timor Leste CSO NCDs Alliance. The fellows are willing to come to a plan to strengthening national multisectoral cooperation and develop relationship across the region to ensuring national and regional alliance are well-equipped to drive change.



Although travel at night time was challenging for the fellows to fully participate and contribute to the meeting due to fatigue. Unexpected flight delays affected accommodation expenses and other issues. However the fellow thank and appreciate WHO Country office in Timor Leste in facilitating the delegation of Timor Leste CSO NCDs risk factor advocator since the selection of NGOs until the travel and accommodation setup from and back to Timor Leste.

This report prepared collaboratively by;

Signature:

Mr Thomas Lopes
Many Hands International

Mr Euklidis Torrezão
Youth Unity for Community Progress

Mr Sancho B Fernandes
National Youth Council of Timor-Leste
