Myanmar Health Forum

Investing in Health: the Key to Achieving a People-Centered Development

28-29 July 2015
Myanmar International Convention Center II
Naypyitaw, Myanmar
ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးစောင်းခံခါးဦး

စိန်စစ်စိန်စိုးမှု၌ ထူးချွန် ခုံးချွန် ထိုင်မြင်ခြင်းများ၀င်သည် ပြုလုပ်မှန်ကန်စွာ အားလုံးကို စိုးရိမ်မှုကို ပြုလုပ်နိုင်ခြင်း ဖြစ်သည်။ မူရင်းဦးစီးသူများ အားလုံးကို မှန်ကန်စွာ အားလုံးကို ပြုလုပ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

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ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးစောင်းခံခါးဦး မူရင်းဦးစီးသူများ အားလုံးကို မှန်ကန်စွာ အားလုံးကို ပြုလုပ်နိုင်ပါသည်။

Investing in Health: the Key to Achieving a People-Centered Development
Myanmar Health Forum

The Myanmar Health Forum is taking place in Nay Pyi Taw on 28-29 July 2015. It will be the first national gathering of all health sector players in Myanmar. Under the aegis of the Ministry of Health, the Forum will include representatives of civil society (both national and international), state/regional and municipal health authorities, other ministries, bilateral and multilateral development partners, health workers’ associations, and academics and experts from Myanmar and abroad.

The purpose of this first-ever Forum is for the health sector as a whole to take stock, reflect and plan further action in achieving the “Health Vision 2030” launched by the Union Government in 2000, the ultimate goal being for Myanmar to establish universal health coverage in the next 15 years. The main theme of the two-day Forum is “Investing in health: the key to achieving a people-centered development”.

The Forum will consist of two days of intense knowledge-sharing, presentations and discussions in various formats. The expected 700 participants will meet in plenary sessions and also divide into parallel groups for more specific subjects. In a communal space open to all throughout the event, the Ministry of Health will display its work in all of Myanmar’s 15 states/regions and civil society organizations will also showcase their achievements in the health sector.

The objective of the Forum, beyond sharing experiences, networking and debate, is to foster a closer collaboration between the many health sector players in Myanmar. It also aims to put the country on the path towards realizing universal health coverage within a generation, so that the people of Myanmar can afford to remain healthier for longer—and therefore launch Myanmar’s sustainable economic and social development.
AGENDA
0800 - 0845 ணာရှိသီဟာရဆိုင်ရာ များတွင် ပြောပြပါသည်

0845 - 0900 အမှတ်အမှတ်ထဲတွင် ဖော်ပြထားသည်
Prof. Dean Jamison, Professor Emeritus, Global Health, University of Washington; Co-chair and Study Director of the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health

0900 - 0930 အများအားဖြင့် အဖွဲ့ဝင်အပိုင်းများထဲမှာ ပြောပြပါသည်

0930 - 0945 ထိန်းသစ်များစောင်တွင် ပြောပြပါသည်
Prof. Dr Recep Akdag, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey

0945 - 1005 ဟာသမိုင်းများသော ဖော်ပြပြောပြပါသည်
H.E. Dr Than Aung, Minister of Health, Myanmar

1005 - 1025 အမြန်တိုးမြဲသော ဖော်ပြပြောပြပါသည်
H.E. Mr Derek J. Mitchell, United States Ambassador to Myanmar

1025 - 1045 အမြန်တိုးမြဲသော ဖော်ပြပြောပြပါသည်
Prof. Dr Recep Akdag, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey

1045 - 1105 ပြောပြပြောပြပါသည်

1105 - 1125 လန်ဒီယိုဖောင်ရွေးချယ်ပြောပြပါသည်
Panellists:
H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar
H.E. Dr Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister of Finance, Myanmar
Daw Nwe Zin Win, Executive Director, Pyi Gyi Khin

1125 - 1135 ပြောပြပြောပြပါသည်

Moderator:
Mr Eamonn Murphy, Director, UNAIDS Country Office, Myanmar

1135 - 1200 အမှတ်အမှတ်တစ်ဆောင်မှု အပေါ်
### Panellists:

**Dr Abeykoon Palitha**, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka  
**Prof. Jin Ma**, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Public Health, China  
**Dr Eduardo Banzon**, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank  
**Dr. Helen Saxenian**, Senior Consultant, Results for Development Institute

**Moderator:**  
**Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert**, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

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<th>Time</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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| 13:45-15:00 | 1       | Discussion on health system and policies, particularly in the context of Myanmar and other countries.  
Panellists:  
**Ms Aparnaa Somanathan**, Senior Economist, World Bank  
**Mr Jack Langenbrunner**, Health Financing Consultant, World Bank  
**Dr Thant Sin Htoo**, Deputy Director, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert**, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

**Moderator:**  
**Ms Meng (Ann) Hsuan Lin**, Health Systems Specialist, 3MDG Fund, Myanmar

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| 15:00-15:30 | 2       | Discussion on health system and policies, particularly in the context of Myanmar and other countries.  
Panellists:  
**Dr Thida Hla**, Director, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Theim Kyaw**, Director, Department of Traditional Medicine, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Netnaphis Suchonwanich**, Deputy Secretary General, National Health Security Office, Thailand  
**Dr Douglas Ball**, Public Health Pharmacology Consultant  
**Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

**Moderator:**  
**Dr Krisantha Weerasuriya**, Expert in Essential Drugs and Medicines
Panellists:

**H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay**, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar

**Prof. Richard Coker**, Professor of Public Health, LSHTM and Head of the Communicable Diseases Policy Research Group for South East Asia, United Kingdom

**Prof. Mya Thida**, President, the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society, Myanmar Medical Association

**Prof. Ne Win**, President, Myanmar Academy of Medical Science

**Dr Sid Naing**, Country Director, Marie Stopes International, Myanmar

**Moderator:**

**Ms Janet Jackson**, Representative, Myanmar Country Office, UNFPA

Panellists:

**Prof. Dr Recep Akdag**, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey

**Dr Abeykoon Palitha**, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka

**Prof. Dorairaj Prabhakaran**, Executive Director, Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases, Public Health Foundation of India

**Ms Ully Adhie Mulyani**, National Institute of Health Research & Development, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

**Prof. Ko Ko**, Professor and Head of Medicine, University of Medicine 2, Yangon, Myanmar

**Moderator:**

**Dr Kan Tun**, Senior Adviser, Myanmar Country Officer, Clinton Health Access Initiative

Panellists:

**Dr Thein Gi Thwin**, Myanmar Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

**Dr May Khin Than**, Director, National Nutrition Centre, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

**U Sein Thaung Oo**, Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association

**Moderator:**

**Dr Aye Twin**, Principal Partner, Nutrition for Development Initiative, Myanmar

**1700 - 1800**

(a) Lobby, Ground Floor, MICC2

**1800 - 1900**

(b) Lobby (MICC2)
Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

H.E. U Soe Thane, Minister of the President’s Office, Myanmar

Dr Nafsiah Mboi, Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance Envoy; Former Chair of the Global Fund Board and Former Minister of Health of Indonesia

Introductory Address:
H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister of the President’s Office, Myanmar

Panellists:
H.E. Daw Lei Lei Thein, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar
Prof. Naoyuki Kobayashi, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and JICA Senior Advisor on Development Policy and Governance for Health, Japan
Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute, Switzerland

Moderator:
Dr Than Sein, President, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar
လူတိုင်းႏွင့္လက္လွမ္းမီေသာက်န္းမာေရးေစာင့္ေရွာက္မႈစနစ္သို႔ေရာက္ရွိေစရန္စီမံေဆာင္ရြက္ျခင္း

အစီအစဥ္ ၁။ လူတိုင်းႏွင့္လက္လွမ္းမီေသာက်န္းမာေရးေစာင့္ေရွာက္မႈစနစ္သို႔ေရာက္ရွိေစရန္မည့္အရာမ်ားလိုအပ္ပါသလဲ။

က်န္းမာေရးက႑တြင္ဘက္စံု၀န္ေဆာင္မႈစနစ္ျမႇင့္တင္ျခင္း(လူ႔စြမ္းအားအရင္းအျမစ္ႏွင့္ေဆးရံုမ်ားတြင္ေပးေသာအေျခခံေစာင့္ေရွာက္မႈ)

Panellists:
Dr Tin Tun, Director (HRH Management)
Department of Health Professional Resource Development and Management, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Eduardo Banzon, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Dr Prastuti Soewondo Chusnun, Chairperson, Health Working Group of TNP2K, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

Dr Myint Htwe, Retired Director, Programme Management, WHO SEARO

Moderator:
Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute, Switzerland

အစီအစဥ္ ၂။ မည့္သူမွ်မက်န္ရရွိေအာင္လုပ္ေဆာင္ျခင္းက်န္းမာေရးႏွင့္ဖြံ႔ၿဖိဳးမႈအတြက္အျခားက်န္းမာေရးေဆာင္ရြက္သူမ်ားႏွင့္ပူးေပါင္းေဆာင္ရြက္ေရး

Panellists:
Dr Than Min Htut, Township Medical Officer, Pindaya, Shan State, Myanmar

Dr Aung Tin Oo, General Practitioner and member of the Sun Quality Health Network, Myanmar

Dr Khin Nyein Chan, Country Representative, ICAP, Columbia University, Myanmar

Prof. Yin Mya, President, Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association

Dr Ed Marta, Director, Karen Department of Health and Welfare, Myanmar

Prof. Rai Mra, President, Myanmar Medical Association

Prof. Samuel Kyaw Hla, Chair, Myanmar Medical Council

Moderator:
Mr Bill Slater, Director, Office of Public Health, USAID, Myanmar
Panellists:

Dr Nafsiah Mboi, Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance Envoy; Former Chair of the Global Fund Board and Former Minister of Health, Indonesia

Speaker Nomination from Ministry of Finance

Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Nu Nu Tha, Advisor to the President, Health Sector, Myanmar

Dr Ohnmar Khaing, Coordinator, Food Security Working Group, Myanmar

Moderator:

Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar

Panellists:

Daw Aye Aye Sein, Deputy Director-General of Administration, Department of Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Tun Aung Kyi, State Public Health Director, Kayah State, Myanmar

Dr Myint Thein Tun, Township Medical Officer, Hlaingbwe, Kayin State, Myanmar

Dr Wai Mar Mar Tun, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Makoto Tobe, JICA Senior Advisor on Health Financing and Health Systems, Japan

Mr Christopher C. Politis, Chief Technical Advisor, Myanmar Country Office, UNDP

Moderator:

Dr Phone Myint, Secretary, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar

Dr Thet Khaing Win, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Jorge Luna, Representative, WHO Myanmar

H.E. Dr Than Aung, Minister of Health, Myanmar
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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 08:45</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 - 09:30</td>
<td>Opening Speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 - 09:30</td>
<td><strong>H.E. President U Thein Sein</strong>, President, Myanmar</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 - 09:50</td>
<td>Keynote Address: The significance of health for development in an emerging Myanmar</td>
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<td>09:30 - 09:50</td>
<td><strong>Prof. Dean Jamison</strong>, Professor Emeritus, Global Health, University of Washington; Co-chair and Study Director of the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:50 - 10:05</td>
<td>Photo session for heads of delegation</td>
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<td>10:05 - 10:25</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; tea break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:25 - 10:45</td>
<td>Keynote address: Health sector reform priorities for Myanmar</td>
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<td>10:25 - 10:45</td>
<td><strong>H.E. Dr Than Aung</strong>, Minister of Health, Myanmar</td>
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<td>10:45 - 10:55</td>
<td>Keynote address: Health as a foundation for socio-economic growth and prosperity in Myanmar</td>
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<td>10:45 - 10:55</td>
<td><strong>H.E. Mr Derek J. Mitchell</strong>, United States Ambassador to Myanmar</td>
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<td>10:55 - 11:15</td>
<td>Keynote address: Leadership for health</td>
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<td>10:55 - 11:15</td>
<td><strong>Prof. Dr Recep Akdag</strong>, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey</td>
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<td>11:15 - 11:30</td>
<td>Video presentation</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: Health sector reform and development needs in Myanmar</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td>Panellists:</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td><strong>H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay</strong>, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td><strong>H.E. Dr Maung Maung Thein</strong>, Deputy Minister of Finance, Myanmar</td>
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<td>11:30 - 12:45</td>
<td><strong>Daw Nwe Zin Win</strong>, Executive Director, Pyi Gyi Khin</td>
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<td>12:45 - 13:45</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
13:45 - 15:00  **Panel Discussion**: Learning from other countries – significance of investing in health for economic growth and social development

Panellists:
**Dr Abeykoon Palitha**, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka  
**Prof. Jin Ma**, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Public Health, China  
**Dr Eduardo Banzon**, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank  
**Dr. Helen Saxenian**, Senior Consultant, Results for Development Institute

Moderator:
**Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert**, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

15:00 - 15:30  Coffee & tea break

15:30 - 17:00  **Parallel Sessions Part 1**: What is needed to achieve universal health coverage?

**Session 1: What is needed to achieve universal health coverage?**

Financing health and development
Panellists:
**Ms Aparnaa Somanathan**, Senior Economist, World Bank  
**Mr Jack Langenbrunner**, Health Financing Consultant, World Bank  
**Dr Thant Sin Htoo**, Deputy Director, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert**, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Moderator:
**Ms Meng (Ann) Hsuan Lin**, Health Systems Specialist, 3MDG Fund, Myanmar

**Session 2: Ensuring no one is left behind**

Improving access to medicines
Panellists:
**Dr Thida Hla**, Director, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Thim Kyaw**, Director, Department of Traditional Medicine, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
**Dr Netnaphis Suchonwanich**, Deputy Secretary General, National Health Security Office, Thailand  
**Dr Douglas Ball**, Public Health Pharmacology Consultant  
**Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Moderator:
**Dr Krisantha Weerasuriya**, Expert in Essential Drugs and Medicines
Session 3: Bringing health services to the people

Addressing the unfinished health agenda
Panellists:
**H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay**, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar
**Prof. Richard Coker**, Professor of Public Health, LSHTM and Head of the Communicable Diseases Policy Research Group for South East Asia, United Kingdom
**Prof. Mya Thida**, President, the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society, Myanmar Medical Association
**Prof. Ne Win**, President, Myanmar Academy of Medical Science
**Dr Sid Naing**, Country Director, Marie Stopes International, Myanmar

Moderator:
**Ms Janet Jackson**, Representative, Myanmar Country Office, UNFPA

Session 4: Planning for the future

Meeting the future challenges to health and development - increasing burden of non-communicable diseases
Panellists:
**Prof. Dr Recep Akdag**, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey
**Dr Abeykoon Palitha**, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka
**Prof. Dorairaj Prabhakaran**, Executive Director, Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases, Public Health Foundation of India
**Ms Ully Adhie Mulyani**, National Institute of Health Research & Development, Ministry of Health, Indonesia
**Prof. Ko Ko**, Professor and Head of Medicine, University of Medicine 2, Yangon, Myanmar

Moderator:
**Dr Kan Tun**, Senior Adviser, Myanmar Country Officer, Clinton Health Access Initiative

Session 5: Improving Myanmar’s health situation through food and nutrition

Panellists:
**Dr Thein Gi Thwin**, Myanmar Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
**Dr May Khin Than**, Director, National Nutrition Centre, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
**U Sein Thaung Oo**, Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association

Moderator:
**Dr Aye Twin**, Principal Partner, Nutrition for Development Initiative, Myanmar

17:00 - 18:00 Viewing of the community village, Lobby, Ground Floor, MICC2
18:00 - 19:00 Reception (Banquet Hall, MICC2)
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<tr>
<td>09:00 - 09:30</td>
<td><strong>Forum Day 2 Welcome and outcomes of day 1</strong></td>
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<td>Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar</td>
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<td>09:30 – 09:50</td>
<td><strong>Keynote address:</strong> Investing in health: planning and financing</td>
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<td>H.E. U Soe Thane, Minister of the President’s Office, Myanmar</td>
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<td>09:50 – 10:10</td>
<td><strong>Keynote address:</strong> Governance and partnerships – decentralizing the health services to reach those who need it most</td>
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<td>Dr Nafsiah Mboi, Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance Envoy; Former Chair of the Global Fund Board and Former Minister of Health of Indonesia</td>
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<td>10:10 - 10:40</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; tea break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40 – 11:55</td>
<td><strong>Introductory Address:</strong></td>
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<td>H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister of the President’s Office, Myanmar</td>
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<td><strong>Panel Discussion:</strong> Governance and partnerships for health and development</td>
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<td>H.E. Daw Lei Lei Thein, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar</td>
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<td>Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar</td>
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<td>Prof. Naoyuki Kobayashi, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and JICA Senior Advisor on Development Policy and Governance for Health, Japan</td>
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<td>Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Moderator:</td>
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<td>Dr Than Sein, President, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar</td>
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<td>11:55 - 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
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</table>
13:00 - 14:30  Parallel Sessions Part 2: Advancing health reforms – planning for UHC

Session 1: What is needed to achieve universal health coverage?
Aligning structure of the health system with people-centered development (human resources for health and hospital care services)
Panellists:
Dr Tin Tun, Director (HRH Management) Department of Health Professional Resource Development and Management, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Eduardo Banzon, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank
Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
Dr Prastuti Soewondo Chusnun, Chairperson, Health Working Group of TNP2K, Ministry of Health, Indonesia
Dr Myint Htwe, Retired Director, Programme Management, WHO SEARO

Moderator:
Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute, Switzerland

Session 2: Ensuring no one is left behind
Partnerships for health and development with other health actors
Panellists:
Dr Than Min Htut, Township Medical Officer, Pindaya, Shan State, Myanmar
Dr Aung Tin Oo, General Practitioner and member of the Sun Quality Health Network, Myanmar
Dr Khin Nyein Chan, Country Representative, ICAP, Columbia University, Myanmar
Prof. Yin Mya, President, Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association
Dr Ed Marta, Director, Karen Department of Health and Welfare, Myanmar
Prof. Rai Mra, President, Myanmar Medical Association
Prof. Samuel Kyaw Hla, Chair, Myanmar Medical Council

Moderator:
Mr Bill Slater, Director, Office of Public Health, USAID, Myanmar
Session 3: Bringing health services to the people

Multi-sectoral approaches for achieving UHC – ensuring synergies among key development and economic sectors

Panellists:
Dr Nafsiah Mboi, Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance Envoy; Former Chair of the Global Fund Board and Former Minister of Health, Indonesia
Speaker Nomination from Ministry of Finance
Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Nu Nu Tha, Advisor to the President, Health Sector, Myanmar
Dr Ohnmar Khaing, Coordinator, Food Security Working Group, Myanmar

Moderator:
Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar

Session 4: Planning for the future

Strategic planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation at national, state/region, district and township level

Panellists:
Daw Aye Aye Sein, Deputy Director-General of Administration, Department of Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Tun Aung Kyi, State Public Health Director, Kayah State, Myanmar
Dr Myint Thein Tun, Township Medical Officer, Hlaingbwe, Kayin State, Myanmar
Dr Wai Mar Mar Tun, Assistant Secretary, Ministry Office, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Makoto Tobe, JICA Senior Advisor on Health Financing and Health Systems, Japan
Mr Christopher C. Politis, Chief Technical Advisor, Myanmar Country Office, UNDP

Moderator:
Dr Phone Myint, Secretary, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar

14:30 – 15:00 Coffee & tea break

15:00 - 15:45 Conclusion
Dr Thet Khaing Win, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

15:45-16:00 Review and adoption of the communiqué
Dr Jorge Luna, Representative, WHO Myanmar

16:00 Closing remarks
H.E. Dr Than Aung, Minister of Health, Myanmar
SESSION
DESCRIPTION
The Government of Myanmar announced plans in January 2014 to step up health care reform efforts and stressed the need to review the Myanmar Health Vision 2030 in line with national and regional health development plans and the Myanmar Comprehensive Development Plan. Myanmar is working towards attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030. Priority areas include: identifying the Essential Health Package; enhancing human resource for health management; strengthening supply chain management infrastructure at all levels; improving the effectiveness of public-private partnerships; developing alternative health financing methods and making health care affordable for all; boosting community engagement; strengthening the evidence-based management information system; reviewing health policies and adopting new policies for UHC; and improving governance and stewardship for attainment of UHC. This session will identify from different perspectives what impact the health sector reform will have on health and development needs in Myanmar. The session will contextualize the progress of the health reform agenda and provide a framework for the following two-day discussion. Key issues to be addressed in the session range from confirming the commitment to attain UHC by 2030; what domestic and external resources will be required to reach the goals (both financially and technically); and how to address the challenges, expectations and priority needs of beneficiaries.

Panel discussion 1: Health sector reform and development needs in Myanmar

Day 1, 11:30 - 12:45

Time allocated: 1 hour 15 minutes

The Government of Myanmar announced plans in January 2014 to step up health care reform efforts and stressed the need to review the Myanmar Health Vision 2030 in line with national and regional health development plans and the Myanmar Comprehensive Development Plan. Myanmar is working towards attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030. Priority areas include: identifying the Essential Health Package; enhancing human resource for health management; strengthening supply chain management infrastructure at all levels; improving the effectiveness of public-private partnerships; developing alternative health financing methods and making health care affordable for all; boosting community engagement; strengthening the evidence-based management information system; reviewing health policies and adopting new policies for UHC; and improving governance and stewardship for attainment of UHC. This session will identify from different perspectives what impact the health sector reform will have on health and development needs in Myanmar. The session will contextualize the progress of the health reform agenda and provide a framework for the following two-day discussion. Key issues to be addressed in the session range from confirming the commitment to attain UHC by 2030; what domestic and external resources will be required to reach the goals (both financially and technically); and how to address the challenges, expectations and priority needs of beneficiaries.

Panel composition

Moderator: Mr Eamonn Murphy, Director, UNAIDS Country office, Myanmar
Panellists:
H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar
H.E. Dr Maung Maung Thein, Deputy Minister of Finance, Myanmar
Daw Nwe Zin Win, Executive Director, Pyi Gyi Khin
Panel discussion 2: Learning from other countries - significance of investing in health for economic growth and social development

Day 1, 13:45 - 15:00

Health has been a key influence in the shift in conceptual thinking on development from mere growth in income towards broader human well-being. This shift has been illustrated by international goals and indicators that have placed health firmly on the development agenda-from the Human Development Index to the Millennium Development Goals and now the Sustainable Development Goals. Country experience has shown that improving health outcomes are both a cause and consequence of economic growth, as well as a dimension of poverty reduction. Three categories of country experience can be made: countries where improvements in health either 'trickled' down from or were driven by economic growth; countries that recognized the contribution of health and invested in the sector as a key input for economic growth; and countries that adopted a broader development agenda (beyond economic growth) from the start and invested in Universal Health Coverage as a cornerstone of poverty reduction and human well-being. This last approach is Myanmar’s way forward on health and people-centred development.

However, there are important lessons to be learned from all three categories on the nature and magnitude of investments that allowed countries to accelerate achievements in health. This session will underscore the critical significance of investing in health for development and discuss both the recommended scale and the composition of these investments for Myanmar. The panel will also highlight issues to be discussed in detail in the subsequent parallel sessions.

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Panellists:
Dr Abeykoon Palitha, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka
Prof. J in Ma, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Public Health
Dr Eduardo Banzon, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank
Dr. Helen Saxenian, Senior Consultant, Results for Development Institute
Parallel session 1: What is needed to achieve universal health coverage?

Part 1: Financing health and development

Day 1, 15:30- 17:00

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

Over the past two years, the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) movement in Myanmar has picked up speed, with strong endorsement by the political and technical leadership at the highest level and across the government sectors: health, finance and labour, employment, and social security as well as keen support from development partners. One clear lesson emerging across the globe is that financing for UHC would be heavily reliant on public sources, particularly to ensure that the poor have financial risk protection and access to quality services. Significant efforts have been made to mobilize more financing for UHC through general revenues, earmarked taxes and other innovative financing mechanisms. To ensure the equitable and efficient use of these funds, countries across the world now offer lessons and experience on improving allocation, risk pooling and provider payment mechanisms, as well as interventions that aim to ensure that public funds are better managed, better allocated, better spent and better accounted for. As it embarks on the UHC journey, Myanmar has a tremendous opportunity to avoid mistakes by learning from other countries’ successes and challenges. This panel is designed to be provocative and engaging, with the intention of having an open and honest conversation about opportunities and potential pitfalls for Myanmar’s path to UHC.

Panel composition

Moderator: Ms Meng (Ann) Hsuan Lin, Health Systems Specialist, 3MDG Fund, Myanmar

Panelists:
Ms Aparnaa Somanathan, Senior Economist, World Bank
Mr Jack Langenbrunner, Health Financing Consultant, World Bank
Dr Thant Sin Htoo, Deputy Director, Minister’s Office, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Suwit Wibulpolprasert, Chairman, Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
Parallel session 2: Ensuring no one is left behind

Part 1: Improving access to medicines

Day 1, 15:30 - 17:00

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

Medicines have been identified as one of four main areas of health systems efficiency. In Myanmar, out of pocket payments (OPP) by households constitute over 80% of total health expenditure, with significant impoverishing consequences; 40% of OPP go towards the purchase of medicines. More affordable medicines could fast-track improvements in health equity for UHC and poverty reduction through changes in pricing and supply chain management, as well as affordable access on the demand side. Further, traditional medicines (as defined by WHO) are often an underestimated part of health services, including with respect to household expenditure information. In Myanmar traditional medicines have a long history of use in health for prevention as well as treatment. Therefore, a policy to strengthen investment in medicines in Myanmar would need to include traditional medicines. This session will explore these issues and recommend best practices for investing to address them.

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Krisantha Weerasuriya, Expert in Essential Drugs and Medicines
Panellists:
Dr Thida Hla, Director, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Theim Kyaw, Director, Department of Traditional Medicine, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Netnaphis Suchonwanich, Deputy Secretary General, National Health Security Office, Thailand
Dr Douglas Ball, Public Health Pharmacology Consultant
Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
Day 1, 15:30-17:00

Myanmar has made some progress towards achieving its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), but many goals will not be achieved by the end of 2015. HIV, malaria and TB remain on the list of top 10 causes of death and illness in Myanmar. The maternal, infant and under 5 mortality rates in Myanmar are among the highest in the region and access to contraception is still far from widespread. Human resources for health are still constrained, even as recruitment of doctors, nurses and midwives have increased since the early 1990s. Addressing health and access to services inequities are of paramount importance for client-centred care. The current reforms must ensure that health services reach the poor, disadvantaged groups, minority groups and those in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach areas. Key issues to be addressed in this session include resource needs to bring health services to all people in Myanmar; which critical elements to integrate into an Essential Health Package; and where should Myanmar’s emphasis be for reaching the MDGs and Sustainable Development Goals. The overarching question will be to define ways to accelerate the implementation of existing strategies to improve overall health indicators and provide quality health care.

Panel composition

Moderator: Ms Janet Jackson, Representative, Myanmar Country Office, UNFPA
Panellists:
H.E. Dr Thein Thein Htay, Deputy Minister of Health, Myanmar
Prof. Richard Coker, Professor of Public Health, LSHTM and Head of the Communicable Diseases Policy Research Group for South East Asia, United Kingdom
Prof. Mya Thida, President, the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society, Myanmar Medical Association
Prof. Ne Win, President, Myanmar Academy of Medical Science
Dr Sid Naing, Country Director, Marie Stopes International, Myanmar
Parallel Session 4: Planning for the future

Part 1: Meeting the future challenges to health and development - increasing burden of non-communicable diseases

Day 1, 15:30- 17:00

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

Evidence and projections indicate a disproportionate and increasing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in low and low-middle income countries, especially among the productive age group. This has significant implications for development. Equally, the associated cost of individual curative care has significant implications for health. In Myanmar, 60% of all mortality is due to NCDs; over half of these occur at less than 70 years of age. Four diseases account for the bulk of the NCD burden: cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory disease and diabetes. The key driver of NCDs is lifestyle choice, associated with economic growth and development, including urbanization. The session will highlight the potential impact on the health system of the increasing NCD burden and discuss the implications for health and development in Myanmar, as well as the response needed from the health sector (recognizing that a multisectoral response is an important part of a comprehensive strategy for NCDs—to be discussed on Day 2).

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Kan Tun, Senior Adviser, Myanmar Country Office, Clinton Health Access Initiative

Panellists:

Prof. Dr Recep Akdag, Former Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, Grand National Assembly, Turkey

Dr Abeykoon Palitha, Chairman, National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol, Sri Lanka

Prof. Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Executive Director, Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases, Public Health Foundation of India

Ms Ully Adhie Mulyani, National Institute of Health Research & Development, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

Prof. Ko Ko, Professor and Head of Medicine, University of Medicine 2, Yangon, Myanmar
Nutritional and food safety problems are a present and persistent public health issue in Myanmar. There is no well-defined demarcation of the responsibilities of the concerned regulatory agencies to implement food safety controls. Legislation and working procedures for food safety need to be updated in line with ASEAN food safety policy. Therefore, a food safety regulatory structure is necessary to implement national standards and comply with global practice. The nutrition programme’s objective is the “attainment of nutritional well-being of all citizens as part of the overall social-economic development by means of health and nutrition activities together with the cooperative effort by the food production sector”. The Ministry of Health needs to disseminate more public information on the nutritional quality of food and also better ascertain the nutritional status of the population.

**Panel composition**

**Moderator:** Dr Aye Twin, Principal Partner, Nutrition for Development Initiative, Myanmar  
**Panellists:**  
Dr Thein Gi Thwin, Myanmar Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
Dr May Khin Than, Director, National Nutrition Centre, Ministry of Health, Myanmar  
U Sein Thaung Oo, Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association
Panel discussion 3: Governance and partnerships for health and development

Day 2, 10:40 – 11:55

Time allocated: 1 hour 15 minutes

Governance is a process more political than technical, which further highlights the importance of understanding the political economy and the art of balancing competing influences and demands. The Framework for Economic and Social Reforms was developed in consultation with various Myanmar ministries and departments in 2012. It provides guidance for cooperation and coordination with development partners (national and international) while ensuring that reforms are actionable, effective and efficient. Furthermore, global, regional and national partnerships have significantly scaled up results, which all impact Myanmar’s transition in the health arena. In Myanmar, the Ministry of Health has recently been promoting such global and local partnerships such as broadening the scope of the Myanmar Health Sector Coordinating Committee beyond HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, as well as signing up for the IHP+ Global Compact. This session will demonstrate the essential roles of governance and partnerships for health and development through the Myanmar experiences as well as examples from other countries.

Panel composition

Introductory address:
H.E. U Tin Naing Thein, Minister of the President’s Office, Myanmar

Moderator: Dr Than Sein, President, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar

Panellists:
H.E. Daw Lei Lei Thein, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar
Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar
Prof. Naoyuki Kobayashi, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and JICA Senior Advisor on Development Policy and Governance for Health, Japan
Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute, Switzerland
Parallel Session 1: What is needed to achieve universal health coverage?

Part 2: Aligning structure of the health system with people-centered development
(human resources for health and hospital care services)

Day 2, 13:00 - 14:30

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

People-centred development requires a close-to-client and responsive health service delivery system. From international experience, three aspects are particularly important. Firstly, strong referrals that link primary services to hospital services effectively. Countries are implementing both different management structures (e.g. hospital autonomy) as well as service delivery roles (e.g. primary care in hospitals). Hospital care is also an important area for potential public-private partnerships. Secondly, human resources for a close-to-client and responsive service delivery: health systems’ incentive structure is a crucial factor in improving health workforce training, deployment, retention and performance. Thirdly, health system administration: most countries have implemented some form of administrative and financial decentralization.

In Myanmar, townships are the nodal points for decentralized planning and implementation, using centrally-allocated budgets. Health systems usually follow this structure, aligned with overarching administrative and financial decentralization. However, some countries have found this to be unsatisfactory in terms of health equity and efficiency. This session will inform the restructuring effort in Myanmar, based on similar country contexts and in keeping with the goal of ‘leaving no one behind’ with close-to-clients services, aligned with a people-centred development.

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Andrew Cassels, Senior Fellow, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute Switzerland

Panellists:

Dr Tin Tun, Director (HRH Management), Department of Health Professional Resource Development and Management, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Eduardo Banzon, Senior Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank

Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand

Dr Prastuti Soewondo Chusnun, Chairperson, Health Working Group of TNP2K, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

Dr Myint Htwe, Retired Director, Programme Management, WHO SEARO
Parallel Session 2: Ensuring no one is left behind

Part 2: Partnerships for health and development with other health actors

Day 2, 13:00 - 14:30

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

Civil society, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, professional health associations, community-based organizations and ethnic health organizations, have a critical role to play in any strategy to move towards UHC. In many parts of the country, in addition to Government services, these organizations contribute significantly to the provision of essential health services to the populations. It is therefore important for all players to be engaged in the national policy dialogue around UHC. As Myanmar moves towards UHC, the environment in which all organizations operate (including the health financing environment) will evolve and will require stronger partnerships between all players to improve service delivery. This session will highlight examples where different actors are creating partnerships or where new partnerships are needed to improve health. This session aims to highlight the role that non-state health actors play in service delivery. Speakers will highlight their unique niche, how they complement the work of other service providers, make recommendations to strengthen coordination and collaboration for efficient service delivery that meets the needs of beneficiaries.

Panel composition

Moderator: Mr Bill Slater, Director, Office of Public Health, USAID, Myanmar

Panellists:
- Dr Than Min Htut, Township Medical Officer, Pindaya, Shan State, Myanmar
- Dr Aung Tin Oo, General Practitioner and member of the Sun Quality Health Network, Myanmar
- Dr Khin Nyein Chan, Country Representative, ICAP, Columbia University, Myanmar
- Prof. Yin Mya, President, Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association
- Dr Ed Marta, Director, Karen Department of Health and Welfare, Myanmar
- Prof. Rai Mra, President, Myanmar Medical Association
- Prof. Samuel Kyaw Hla, Chair, Myanmar Medical Council
Parallel session 3: Bringing health services to the people  
Part 2: Multisectoral approaches for achieving UHC—ensuring synergies among key development and economic sectors

Day 2, 13:00 - 14:30

A multisectoral approach is essential for achieving UHC and improving population health. For example, strong empirical evidence shows investment in girls’ education is associated with improved utilization of basic health services. Likewise, a healthy, productive workforce has a direct positive impact on a country’s economic growth. Close synergy between the Ministry of Health and sectors such as water and sanitation, environment, transport, trade, education, agriculture and infrastructure, are needed to ensure that policies and programmes compliment, rather than duplicate, each other. This session is to discuss the interdependence of health outcomes and the role that other sectors play in influencing population health. The panellists will present international experience and discuss the various formal and informal mechanisms in which actors collaborate. The panel will also discuss efforts in Myanmar to collaborate across ministries, as well as among community organizations, to improve health. Recommendations on how to move this type of multisectoral synergy forward will then be examined.

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Aung Tun Thet, Economic Adviser to the President, Myanmar

Panellists:

Dr Nafsiah Mboi, Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance Envoy; Former Chair of the Global Fund Board and Former Minister of Health, Indonesia

Speaker Nomination from Ministry of Finance

Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar

Dr Nu Nu Tha, Advisor to the President, Health Sector, Myanmar

Dr Ohnmar Khaing, Coordinator, Food Security Working Group, Myanmar
Parallel session 4: Planning for the future

Part 2: Strategic planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation at national, state/region, district and township level

Day 2, 13:00 - 14:30

Time allocated: 1 hour 30 minutes

A well-designed health plan needs to reflect the needs of community and the voices of the people in its programmes. As the current Myanmar National Health Plan (2010-11 to 2015-16) is reaching the final stage of its five-year implementation term, it is now a critical period to review the achievement of the Plan and to take the lessons learned into account in the next Plan. This session will examine the strategic options to develop the health plans at each level (national, state/regions and districts, and townships) and also to manage the cycles of implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and revision of the plans to achieve people-centred health development in Myanmar. The following issues will be discussed in the session:

- interactive linkage between/among the national, state/regional and township health plans;
- policy consistency and local diversity of health plans;
- reflection of community needs and voices of people into health plans;
- sequential cyclic management and continual improvement of health plans; and
- supportive supervision for the development of management capacity.

Panel composition

Moderator: Dr Phone Myint, Secretary, People’s Health Foundation, Myanmar

Panellists:

Daw Aye Aye Sein, Deputy Director-General of Administration, Department of Health, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Tun Aung Kyi, State Public Health Director, Kayah State, Myanmar
Dr Myint Thein Tun, Township Medical Officer, Hlaingbwe, Kayin State, Myanmar
Dr Wai Mar Mar Tun, Assistant Secretary, Ministry Office, Ministry of Health, Myanmar
Dr Makoto Tobe, JICA Senior Advisor on Health Financing and Health Systems, Japan
Mr Christopher C. Politis, Chief Technical Advisor, Myanmar Country Office, UNDP
The Myanmar Health Forum is organized by the Ministry of Health, with the technical support of UNAIDS Country Office, and with the financial support of the Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3MDG).

3MDG is co-funded by Australia, Denmark, the European Union, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and managed by the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS).

Other Partners involved in the organization of the Myanmar Health Forum in support of the Ministry of Health, include members of the Myanmar Health Sector Coordinating Committee, namely: JICA, Marie Stopes International, Pyi Gyi Khin, UNFPA, UNICEF, USAID, the World Bank, and WHO.