

The sixth meeting on Access to Medicines under Universal Health Coverage in the Asia Pacific Region. *Taking stock of lessons learned and moving forward.*

Manila, Philippines 24-25 September 2019

DRAFT AGENDA

Goals

This expert meeting aims at facilitating the exchange of information and experiences on the use of pricing, procurement and other policies and tools to improve access to essential medicines. It aims also at discussing tools and indicators to steer global and national initiatives to measure access to medicines under UHC.

Specific Objectives:

1. To share information on managing medicines prices and ensuring affordability to improve access, especially in low-middle income country settings.
2. To promote exchange of experience between countries with regard to policies and strategies used to lower prices and make medicines more affordable.
3. To identify a simplified list of indicators to monitor the performance of the core functions of a national pharmaceutical system, and discuss the feasibility of data collection and importance to stakeholders.

Tuesday, 24 September 2019

DAY 1. Global and regional updates, and review of Asia Pacific pharmaceuticals policies to improve access	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
Opening session Chair:	
09:00 – 09:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remark - Dr Liu Yunguo, Director, Programme Management, WPRO • Opening remarks - Mr Seunghyun Hwang, Director General, OECD Korea Policy Centre • Introductions • Objectives of the meeting – Dr Klara Tisocki, SEARO • Appointment of Chair, Co-chair and Rapporteur – Dr Soc Escalante, WPRO • Administrative announcements • Group photo
9:30-10:00	<i>Tea/Coffee</i>
10:00-10:30	Keynote presentation: Implication of population ageing for pharmaceuticals policy - Prof Soonman Kwon
Session 1. Access to medicines: A changing agenda regionally and globally	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>This session will review of progress and provide global and regional updates on the access to medicines agenda and how it links to the broader agenda of Universal Health Coverage and Sustainable Development Goals</i>
10:30-10:50	Recent progress in the South East Asia region on access to medicines and moving towards UHC - Dr Klara Tisocki, SEARO

10:50-11:10	Recent progress in the Western Pacific region on access to medicines and moving towards UHC - Dr Socorro Escalante, WPRO
11:10-11:30	Global update on WHO's work on improving access to medicines in context of SDGs - Roadmap for access 2019-2023 - WHO Headquarters
11:30-11:50	Updates on OECD's work – Mr Martin Wenzl, OECD
11:50-12:30	Questions and answers with panel of speakers for the morning
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
Session 2. Tools and indicators to measure access to medicines and the components of a national pharmaceuticals system	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This session will inform participants about the outcome of an international expert consultation on monitoring the components and predictors of access to medicines held in Delhi on 26-27 February 2019. Participants will then discuss on a set of tracer indicators that will allow for monitoring of enablers to more available and affordable, safe, effective and quality-assured medicines</i>
13:30-14:10	Monitoring the components and predictors of access to medicines - Outcome of the international expert consultation - Ms Claudia Nannei, WHO HQ MEDMON - A tool to measure availability and prices of medicines and medical products - Ms Swathi Iyengar, WHO HQ Q&A
14:10-14:30	Panel discussion (Panelists: Indonesia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste) Moderator: Ms Claudia Nannei, WHO HQ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question 1: What are the currently used key indicators in your country to measure progress regarding access to medicines? How regularly these are measured and reported? • Question 2: In which areas do you think it is most important to collect regularly data and report results to decision-makers using key performance indicators? • Question 3: What are your major successes and/or challenges regarding collecting national level data? What tools, support should WHO provide to improve monitoring of pharmaceutical system performance in your country?
14:30-15:30	Group discussion (four groups): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Review key performance indicators to monitor each core function of the national pharmaceutical system, also in light of the SDGs targets</i> • <i>Identify data availability and capacity building needs to address potential gaps for better monitoring</i>
15:30-16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee</i>
16:00-16:45	Reporting back from groups and plenary discussion
17:00-19:00	<i>Reception (Buffet Dinner)</i>

DAY 2. Moving forward: what actions are needed and feasible within and across countries?

Session 3. Improving price transparency: taking stock and moving forward

	<i>This session will get updates from countries and experts on how to move forward, also in light of the WHA resolution on price transparency</i>
08:30 – 08:40	Recap of highlights from previous days discussions (<i>Rapporteur</i>)
08:40 – 09:00	Improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines, and other health products - World Health Assembly Resolution, May 2019 (WHO)
9:00 – 10:00	<p>Panel discussion (Panelists: <i>Bhutan, Malaysia, Maldives, Republic of Korea, Singapore</i>) Moderator: Prof Soonman Kwon</p> <p>Can transparency lower prices and improve access to pharmaceuticals? Views from the field on the World Health Assembly resolution of the 29 May 2019</p> <p>Question 1: The resolution calls on Member States to "to publicly share information on the net prices of health products" from your country perspectives, for which type of medicines would you like to see most urgently the sharing of net prices? (generic vs. patented, specific therapeutic categories? Etc.)</p> <p>Question 2: What is your views on the feasibility of sharing information "by suppliers on registered health products, such as reports on sales revenues, prices, units sold, marketing costs, and subsidies and incentives" as recommended by resolution? Which of these information do you have access to already and/or how this data can be accessed in your country in the future?</p> <p>Question 3: How your country can contribute to "improved public reporting of patent status information and marketing approval status of health products" ? What tools and support needed to countries or regionally, globally to achieve this?</p>
10:00– 10:15	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
10:15-11:00	<p>Country presentation</p> <p>Nepal: The impact of federalization on the availability of essential medicines: the need for information on prices and quality of procured medicines</p> <p>Sri Lanka: The effects of price controls on availability and affordability of targeted essential medicines and health products</p> <p>Vietnam: Current issues of Medicine Prices and Pricing Policies in Vietnam</p> <p>Q&A</p>
11:00– 12:00	<p>Panel discussion: actions to improve price transparency and information sharing on health products in the Asia Pacific (Panelists: Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam) Moderator; Dr Klara Tisocki</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can countries make better use of existing information on procurement prices? • What might be the first steps to increase access to information on other type of prices i.e. maximum retail price or actual prices paid by patients and product quality? • Do countries find it useful to share information on suppliers' performance together with prices? How this should be done? • Do we need regional sharing of information on shortages?
12:00– 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
Session 4. Using HTA, local price information and drugs consumption data and other international comparative work	
13:00 –14:00	<p>Health technology assessment development in China – How it helped to improve access so far? - Prof Yingyao Chen</p> <p>Experiences of using HTA for drug reimbursement decisions in the Republic of Korea - Prof Seungjin Bae</p> <p>Experiences with medicines price transparency and improving procurement efficiency in Thailand - Ms Netnapis Suchonwanich</p>

	Q&A
Session 5. Ways forward on collaboration via this network	
	<i>This session will agree on work plan and target activities and deliverables for next year</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Group discussions: Prioritization of actions put forward via the network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions needed at country level - • Coordinated bilateral or bioregional actions • Supporting research, evidence documentation needs • Role of WHO HQ and Regional offices and OECD
15:00 – 15:30	Feed-back from group discussions
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee (during group discussion)</i>
16:00– 16:30	Summary session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of what we learnt – Dr Klara Tisocki • Summary of what we have planned, including supporting research and evaluation – Dr Soc Escalante • Support by the Secretariat – Dr Klara Tisocki & Dr Soc Escalante • Way forward – Prof Soonman Kwon • Final closing remarks - Mr. Seunghyun Hwang, Director General, OECD Korea Policy Centre