



As of 13 March 2009

ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review Regional Ministerial Meeting on Financing Strategies for Health Care

16-18 March 2009
Colombo, Sri Lanka

PROGRAMME



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sri Lanka

Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition
Sri Lanka

The meeting has been made possible with the generous support of the Governments of Italy and Japan



Official Development Assistance

14th March 2009

Mid day onwards Registration (for delegates who have already arrived in the hotel)

16 March 2009

08:00 a.m. Registration

Opening Session

09:00 a.m. **Welcoming remarks:**

H.E. Rohitha Bogollagama, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka

09:10 a.m. **Address by H.E. Nimal Siripala de Silva**, Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition, Sri Lanka

09:20 a.m. **Keynote address:**

H.E. Ratnasiri Wickremanayake, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka

Opening remarks:

09:35 a.m. **H.E. Mr. Hamidon Ali**, Vice-President, United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations

09:45 a.m. **Mr. Thomas Steltzer**, Assistant-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

09:55 a.m. **Dr. Anarfi Asamoah-Baah**, Deputy Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)

10:05 a.m. Tea Break

Session I: Financing strategies for health care

11:05 a.m. Statement by **Ms. Noeleen Heyzer**, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (UNESCAP) (delivered by Ms. Thelma Kay, Chief, Social Development Division, UNESCAP)

11:15 a.m. **Panel 1: Domestic financing for health care**

Moderator: Professor Weligamage D. Lakshman, Professor of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Panelists:

Dr. Rashid Jooma, Director-General, Pakistan

H.E. Mrs. Tsolmon Jadamba, Vice-Minister of Health, Mongolia

Dr. David B. Evans, Director, Department of Health Systems Financing, World Health Organization (WHO)

For discussion:

- What are the trends in the region regarding levels and sources of domestic financing?
- What strategies and policies can governments implement to raise adequate funds for national health systems?
- What mechanisms can be employed to pool risk?
- What actions can be taken by governments to ensure the equitable and efficient provision of service?
- How are countries coping with the impact of financial crisis on financing of healthcare?
- How can public-private partnerships, domestic NGOs and local communities best complement national efforts to provide quality primary health care to all?

01:15 p.m. Lunch Break

02:15 p.m. **Panel 2: External financing for health care**

Moderator: Dr. David B. Evans, Director, Department of Health Systems Financing (HSF), World Health Organization (WHO)

Panelists:

Mr. Shinichi Asazuma, Senior Coordinator, Global Issues Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Dr. Ravindra P. Rannan-Eliya, Director & Fellow, Institute for Health Policy, Colombo

Ms. Ursula Schäfer-Preuss, Vice President, Asian Development Bank

Mr. Pablo Gottret, Lead Economist, Human Development Sector Unit, South Asia Region, World Bank

Dr. Jorge Bermudez, Executive Secretary, UNITAID

Mr. Simon Wright, Project Manager, Action for Global Health, Brussels

For discussion:

- What are the trends in the region regarding sources, quantity and quality of foreign aid for health?
- How can governments ensure that inflows of external funds support the development of the domestic financing system and institutions, rather than weaken it? What is the impact of vertical funds on national health systems?
- What is the impact of the current financial crisis on global funding for health care? How should it be addressed?

(Tea /Coffee will be available during the discussion)

Session II: Health systems in crisis situations

04:15 p.m. **Panel 3: Challenges for health systems in countries in or following crisis**

Moderator: Dr. Poonam Singh, Deputy Regional Director, Regional Office for South-East Asia, WHO

Panelists:

Dr. H. A. P. Kahandaliyanage, Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, Sri Lanka

Dr. Ahmad Jan Naeem, Acting General Director, Policy and Planning, Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan

Mr. Nicholas Rosellini, Deputy Regional Director, United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP), Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Roderico Ofrin, Regional Adviser, Emergency Health action, WHO Regional office, New Delhi

Mr. Chinnaswamy Kumar, Technical Support Coordinator – Micro Insurance, CARE India

For discussion:

- What actions can governments take to prepare for, respond to and recover from crisis, specifically with regard to health systems?
- How effective have humanitarian actors been in providing emergency assistance to meet urgent health needs and support health systems, in terms of capacity, predictability, effectiveness and accountability?
- To what extent have emergency funding mechanisms met demand and expectations? How can they be improved?

06:15 p.m. Meeting Adjourns

07:30 p.m. Leave Cinnamon Grand Hotel to Mount Lavinia

08:00 p.m. Dinner Hosted by H.E Rohitha Bogollagama, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka, at the Mount Lavinia Hotel

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Session III: Initiatives and recommendations

9:00 a.m. **Presentations of best practices and new initiatives to finance health care**

Chair: Dr Anarfi Asamoah-Baah, Deputy Director-General, World Health Organization

(WHO)

Presentations by: United Nations agencies, governments, NGOs, corporations, foundations

Mr. Robert Filipp, Head Innovative Financing, The Global Fund

Dr. Thomas Teuscher, Coordinator for Policy, Strategies and Governance, RollBackMalaria Partnership, Geneva

Dr. David B. Evans, Director, Health Systems Financing, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva

Dr. Sania Nishtar, President and CEO, Heartfile, Pakistan

Dr. Ravindra P. Rannan-Eliya, Director & Fellow, Institute for Health Policy, Colombo

Prof. Hasbullah Thabrany, Director, Institute for Social Security, University of Indonesia, Indonesia

Dr. Kiyotaka Segami, Executive Board-Director, Welfare and Medical Service Agency (WAM), Japan

10:30 a.m.

Discussion on key messages to be delivered to the Economic and Social Council and next steps to be taken in the region

Chair: H.E. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition, Sri Lanka

Reports from Moderators

Professor Weligamage D. Lakshman, Professor of Economics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dr. David B. Evans, Director, Department of Health Systems Financing (WHO)

Dr. Poonam Singh, Deputy Regional Director, SEARO, WHO

(Tea/Coffee will be available during the discussion)

Session iv : Progress in MDGs

11:30 a.m.

Panel 4: Progress and Challenges in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals

Moderator : Dr Aminath Jameel, Minister of Health and Family, Maldives

Panelists :

Mr H M Gunasekera, Director National Planning, Ministry of Finance and Planning

H.E. Mr. Abdalmahmood Abdalhleem Mohamad, Permanent Representative of Sudan to the UN (Chair of the Group of 77 and China)

Ms. Purnima Mane, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

H.E. Mr. Bernard Savage, Ambassador, Head of Delegation, European Commission

For discussion:

- What actions governments have taken to promote MDGs

- The progress governments have made
- What are the impediments and challenges to achieve the MDGs

Closing Statements:

- 12:30 p.m. **Mr. Thomas Steltzer**, Assistant-Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
H.E. Rohitha Bogollagama, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka
- 01:00 p.m. Meeting adjourns/Lunch

**Press Conference to follow immediately after the adjournment of the Conference
(on invitation only)**

Field visit to Kandy