

**50th Governing Board Meeting
SEAMEO TROPMED Network**

**8-9 September 2011
Bangkok Thailand**

OPENING REMARKS

**By Prof. Dr. Jaime Z. Galvez-Tan
Chair, 49th GBM 2010**

A warm and pleasant good morning to all! Sawasdee kap ! Selamat Pagi ! Sabaidee Ruu ! Chum Reap Su ! Sin Chao! Ni Hao ! Mingalaapaa ! Magandang Umaga!

Very special greetings to Dr.. Wittaya Jeradechakul, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat, Dr. Supamit Chunsuttiwat representing the Director General of the Department of Disease Control of the Ministry of Public Health and Professor Sandra Tempongko, SEAMEO TropMed Deputy Coordinator.

Welcome to the 50th Governing Board Meeting of the SEAMEO TropMed Network. It's our Golden Anniversary meeting! Congratulations to the all of us!

As Chair of the 49th Governing Board Meeting, let me thank the Royal Government of Thailand and the Thailand Ministry of Public Health for hosting the 50th GBM Meeting.

Let me now provide you with the highlights of the Year 2010-2011 :

Significant is the separation of TROPMED Indonesia from the Network-. This is like a daughter or son embarking on a journey without the parents alone . Whereas before TropMed Indonesia Regional Center for Nutrition (RECFON) was part of the nuclear family, it has now decided to be part of the extended family of SEAMEO-TropMed. I wish TROPMED Indonesia RECFON all the success . They are still with us . We are still part of the bigger SEAMEO family

The SEAMEO TROPMED Network was able to meet most of the commitments made during the 49th GBM related to Climate Change:

- ❖ The Policy Forum as part of the advocacy effort of the Network;
- ❖ The development of a core curriculum on climate change for health professionals which can be mainstreamed into existing academic programmes of the Centres; can stand alone as a separate short course; can be rolled out to the member countries;
- ❖ At the Centre level getting more involved in climate change related issues in the implementation of their major functions of education and training, research and technical assistance.

The Network continued to expand their involvement with emergencies and disaster concern by strengthening partnerships with relevant groups and institutions, collaborating with partners in human resource development activities.

A great pride to us is the recognition received by the official journal of the Network i.e. Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health with the “International Journal Award” given by L’Servier Publications. The details of these accomplishments will be provided in the video presentation and in the Regional Centres accomplishment reports.

I would like to congratulate the dynamic leadership of Dr. Pratap Singhasivanon , our Secretary General ad Coordinator, as he had steered the SEAMEO TROPMED Network through its many challenges in the past years. The outstanding accomplishments of the Network is a testimony to Dr. Pratap’s effective management.

It was a great pleasure serving as your Chair of the 49th Governing Board Meeting. Thank you very much for your wonderful cooperation and support.

Kap Khun Kap. Terima Kasih. Cam onh. Kop jay lelay. Shieh shieh. Ao kun. Jeaysu tinpaa. Maraming Salamat Po.