

AGENDA: MULTILATERAL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON BIOSECURITY

With participation from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore,
Thailand, and the United States

Hosted by
the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and
the Department of Disease Control, Thailand Ministry of Public Health

29 April – 1 May 2019
Hyatt Regency Phuket, Thailand
Meeting Room: Kamala I & II

MULTILATERAL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE ON BIOSECURITY
DAY 1 • 29 APRIL 2019

7:00 – 9:00 **Breakfast available at the Pool House Restaurant**

9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome and Goals for Meeting**

Preecha PREMPREE

Deputy Director, Department of Disease Control, Thailand Ministry of Public Health

Tom INGLESBY

Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

Anita CICERO

Deputy Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security

9:15 – 9:45 **Introductions**

Each participant will introduce herself/himself and briefly describe her/his background and interest in biosecurity issues. For purposes of this dialogue, we define “biosecurity” as the policy, programs, and actions taken to prevent and respond to biological threats, whether they are natural, deliberate, or accidental.

9:45 – 11:00 **Dialogue Session One: National Biosecurity Priorities**

A representative from each country will provide opening remarks on current national biosecurity priorities. Topics addressed will include: What are the most concerning biological threats—natural, accidental, and deliberate? What major efforts are being made to address them? How do biosecurity leaders view the latest international developments in biology and biotechnology? What new emerging infectious disease risks are most concerning? How do the life sciences interact with each country’s overall security concerns? What has changed since the last meeting of the dialogue in April 2018?

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Seth CARUS, LEE Fook Kay, Irma MAKALINAO, Ratna SITOMPUL, Zalini YUNUS

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer**

11:30 – 12:45 **Dialogue Session Two: Geopolitical Developments**

Participants will discuss the current and rapidly changing geopolitical situation in the Southeast Asia region and the United States. Topics include elections in Indonesia and Thailand, the resurgence of Islam as an election issue in Indonesia, rumors of North Korea developing bioweapons, disputes over air and maritime boundaries between Malaysia and Singapore, political actions regarding free speech in the Philippines, measles outbreaks in the Philippines and the United States due to “vaccine hesitancy,” the political environment in the United States, the changing US stance in Asia, and the United States’ and other countries’ perspectives and actions on bioeconomy issues. The opening presentations will provide a high-level overview of these developments and their potential implications for biosecurity.

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Endy BAYUNI, Ken BERNARD, KWA Chong Guan, Mely ANTHONY

12:45 – 2:00 **Lunch at Pool House Restaurant and Group Photo**

2:00 – 2:45 **Presentation: Biosecurity Priorities of the Department of Disease Control in the Ministry of Public Health**

Preecha PREMPREE

Deputy Director, Department of Disease Control, Thailand Ministry of Public Health

Q&A and comments from the group

2:45 – 3:15 **Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer**

3:15 – 4:30

Dialogue Session Three: Preparedness for and Response to Emerging Infectious Diseases

This discussion will explore approaches for effective surveillance, early detection, and response to new outbreaks. Participants will also discuss opportunities to improve regional and international collaboration on these issues and the scientific response to emerging infectious diseases. What has been learned from the responses to SARS, MERS, novel influenza, Ebola, and Zika? What disease containment lessons emerged from these outbreaks? What are priority areas for building national response capacity and building the technical capacity to mount an effective response? What is the perception of progress made and future action needed to adhere to the International Health Regulations and the Global Health Security Agenda? Are these issues receiving sufficient political and financial support at the national level? What should the priorities be going forward?

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Pratiwi SUDARMONO, CHONG Chee Kheong, Noreen HYNES

4:30

Day 1 Adjourns

6:30

Dinner at Sunset Grill Restaurant

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DAY 2 • 30 APRIL 2019

7:00 – 9:00

Breakfast available at the Pool House Restaurant

9:00 – 10:15

Dialogue Session Four: Deliberate and Other Advanced and High-Consequence Biological Threats

This session will address a broad range of high-consequence biological threats and collaboration between health and security sectors. Topics include deliberate and accidental threats arising from advances in biology and biotechnology, deliberate biological incidents (eg, bioterrorism), and the roles of security and health agencies in preventing, detecting, and responding to these threats. The opening remarks will be followed by a group discussion of these issues in the context of Southeast Asia, including national and regional mechanisms to address these and other emerging threats.

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Hussein OMAR KHAN, May ONG Bee Leng, Ben RIMBA

10:15 – 10:45

Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer

10:45 – 11:30

Presentation: Regional and International Cooperation to Achieve Biosecurity Goals

Soawapak HINJOY

Director, Office of International Cooperation, Thailand Ministry of Public Health

Q&A and comments from the group

11:30 – 12:15

Presentation: WHO's Response to Major Outbreaks, Epidemics, and Pandemics

Sylvie BRIAND

Director, Infectious Hazard Management, Pandemic and Epidemic Diseases Department, WHO Health Emergency Programme

Q&A and comments from the group

- 12:15 – 1:15** **Lunch at Pool House Restaurant**
- 1:15 – 2:00** **Presentation: The Relevance of the Biological & Toxin Weapons Convention to Southeast Asia and Future Priorities**
- Hermann LAMPALZER
Deputy Chief and Political Affairs Officer, Implementation Support Unit,
Biological & Toxin Weapons Convention
- Q&A and comments from the group*
- 2:00 – 2:15** **Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer**
- 2:15 – 4:30** **Tabletop Policy Exercise: Clade X Pandemic Scenario**
- During this tabletop exercise, created by the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, dialogue participants will be presented with a fictional scenario of an infectious disease pandemic that threatens national and global public health as well as economic and political security. In the scenario, all participants will play advisors to senior government leaders and will be called on to give their recommendations on a number of high-stakes issues and engage in discussion on difficult policy dilemmas that are likely to emerge during a novel pandemic.
- 4:30 – 4:45** **Presentation: WHO’s Role in the Public Health Response to Deliberate Biological Events**
- Maurizio BARBESCHI
Technical Lead, Health Security Interface Secretariat, World Health Organization
- 4:45** **Day 2 Adjourns**
- 6:30** **Beach Dinner at Kamala Bay Lawn**

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DAY 3 • 1 MAY 2019

7:00 – 8:45 **Breakfast available at the Pool House Restaurant**

8:45 – 9:30 **Presentation: US Indo-Pacific Command Health Security Priorities**

Rear Admiral Lou TRIPOLI

Command Surgeon, Indo-Pacific Command, US Department of Defense

Q&A and comments from the group

9:30 – 10:30 **Dialogue Session Five: Ministry of Defense Approaches to Biosecurity and Priorities in Southeast Asia**

Ministries of defense are not historically responsible for health issues; yet, public health emergencies can lead to national security threats. Ministries of defense have important roles to play in responding to large-scale outbreaks and other biological events with national security implications. But the security sector's involvement is complicated by the diversity of government agencies that also have some degree of responsibility for issues at the intersection of health and security. Participants will discuss the degree to which their defense ministries are involved in biosecurity and biodefense initiatives. How organized are they to take on these threats? Do national militaries educate and train their forces on biosecurity threats? Do they have dedicated and sufficient funding for this endeavor? How well do ministries of defense coordinate with other relevant government agencies involved in prevention, response, and recovery related to biological events? What is the extent of regional or international cooperation between militaries on these issues? Have defense ministries in the region become more involved in Global Health Security Agenda initiatives and/or the negotiations around the Biological Weapons Convention? Are ministries of defense attuned to advances in the life sciences that could be misused to create weapons that threaten national security?

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Jeremiah CHNG, Daniel TJEN, Zalini YUNUS

10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer**

11:00 – 12:15

Dialogue Session Six: New Developments in Infectious Disease Research and Vaccine Policy

During this session, participants will discuss their country's work in leveraging science and technology to develop better surveillance tools, diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics to combat infectious disease threats. Participants will discuss research being conducted in government and academic sectors in their countries. Potential discussion topics include the challenges of working with pathogens or technologies that have dual-use applications; promising areas of technology that could optimize outbreak response; plans to procure, manufacture, distribute, or dispense vaccines during infectious disease emergencies, including for novel pathogens; regional coordination for medical countermeasure development, production, or use during emergencies; and national preparedness and capacity for mass vaccination during fast-moving outbreaks.

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Sazaly ABUBAKAR, Venugopal BALAKRISHNAN, Nakorn PREMSRI, Amin SOEBANDRIO

12:15 – 1:15

Lunch at Pool House Restaurant

1:15 – 2:15

Dialogue Session Seven: Impact of Misinformation on Public Health Emergencies

During an epidemic, the public's trust of a government's public health communications can be undermined by fragmented, contradictory, or unreliable messaging. The increasing use of social and nontraditional media channels and growing concern about misinformation and disinformation across these platforms pose significant challenges for communicating about a wide range of health and security issues. To what extent has your country experienced misinformation or disinformation challenges, particularly in the context of biosecurity? Has your country made any efforts to proactively or reactively address them? Are there useful case studies or examples of creating or using highly trusted communication networks to distribute accurate and timely information and public health advice to address uncertainty, answer questions, or counter misinformation or disinformation?

Opening remarks (5-7 minutes each) followed by group discussion

Opening Remarks: Tikki PANGESTU, Divya HOSANGADI, Endy BAYUNI

2:15 – 2:30 **Coffee & Tea Break, Kamala Foyer**

2:30 – 3:15 **Roundtable Discussion: Future Priorities for Multilateral Biosecurity Dialogue**

This session will investigate next steps and future topics for this biosecurity dialogue. As a result of relationships formed in the dialogue, a number of collaborative initiatives have taken place, including:

- Dialogue participants participated in a side event panel discussion on the importance of Track II biosecurity dialogues at the BWC Meeting of the States Parties in December 2017.
- Dialogue participants attended the Prince Mahidol Award Conference in Thailand in February 2018 and presented on the value of Track II multilateral discussions on biosecurity.
- Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines initiated a collaborative “Security Sensitive Materials Awareness Programme” in 2018.
- Dialogue participants collectively authored a manuscript to be published in US CDC’s *Emerging Infectious Diseases* journal in May 2019.

Building on these successes, what other activities or engagement should we consider in order to highlight recommendations from the dialogue? Are there certain issues that this group should recommend for “Track I” attention between their governments? Additionally, we would like to solicit your input regarding topics for next year’s dialogue discussions to ensure that we are engaging in the most relevant topics for your particular organizations and governments.

Opening Remarks and Moderator: Tikki PANGESTU

3:15 **Dialogue Adjourns**