

WPRO/SEARO REGIONAL GUIDE

AMERICAN MOCK
WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

**ONE-DAY
SUMMIT 2018**

IMPACTING HEALTH
THROUGH EDUCATION: A
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE



SUMMARY OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC AND SOUTH EAST ASIAN REGIONS

The Western Pacific Region and South East Asia Region include 48 member countries, seven time zones, and more than one fourth of the world's population. There has been much growth in health outcomes and economic development, but significant challenges remain. Challenges facing WPRO/SEARO include inequalities/disparities, environmental degradation, and especially outbreaks of established and emerging infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and Zika. Early detection and reporting of such outbreaks is crucial, but many disease surveillance systems in WPRO/SEARO are not fully established and thus are ineffective warning systems. Furthermore, much the two regions has understaffed, poorly trained health workforces, and lacks laboratory and investigative technology. Not being able to control infectious disease outbreaks leads to negative economic impacts on tourism, travel, and trade in addition to political and social instability. Therefore, candid communication about public health threats is critical to effective outbreak response and reduced negative impact (1).



IMPORTANT TOPICS

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Diseases Faced In the Workforce

Infection prevention and control practice in healthcare facilities have been at the forefront of WHO states in the WPRO/SEARO regions. The healthcare system, at every level, is being remodeled to include infection-control measures in policies, procedures, and education. Nationally implemented practices are meant to enforce high quality skills regarding infection-control on a widespread scale. However, developing countries make up a large portion of the WPRO/SEARO regions, and insufficient resources have prevented up to date disease prevention and control. This realization has resulted in a more practical approach to infection-control, and health providers have began accepting donations, such as surgical masks, to make up for their lack of resources. National policies in infection-control depend on the nation's accessibility to resources. The vulnerability of workers, patients, and visitors in healthcare settings became heightened after severe acute respiratory syndrome spread throughout health care facilities. SARS wasn't the first disease outbreak in the region, but its magnitude showed that a systematic approach was needed. The past decade has brought the constant development of the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases. Their mission, along with smaller committees, is to respond appropriately within a timely manner to threats of public health.

Acknowledgements

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