ASIAN PACIFIC DENGUE PREVENTION BOARD

S.K. LAM, EMERITUS PROFESSOR UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

FORMATION OF THE APDPB IN HO CHI MINH CITY

- Founding Meeting December 7-9, 2006
- Members from Sri Lanka, Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Japan (Indonesia with apologies)
- PDVI Secretariat
- WHO Regional Offices in New Delhi and Manila were ex-officio non-voting members
- Consultants

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- APDPB comprises independent specialists in public health, clinical medicine, laboratory sciences
- APDPB identifies, recommends & promotes best contemporary practice and research in prevention and control of dengue
- Identifies needs for capacity building
- Collaborates with national & international agencies, incl. governments, universities, research centers, WHO, CDC, NGOs

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Convenes international forums with invited specialists to discuss contemporary practice and multidisciplinary approach in dengue prevention and control
- Topics identified include Surveillance, Diagnostics, Burden of Disease, Case Management. Vector Control, Health Education, Antivirals & Vaccines

PUBLICATIONS

- APPDB produces and distributes various publications including papers in peer reviewed journals, articles in PDVI News, and its own documents
- Host a share point website with PDVI
- Exchange reports and publications with the Americas Dengue Prevention Board

APDPB FIRST TECHNICAL MEETING

- Held in Sri Lanka, June 21-23, 2007
- Topic: Best Practices in Surveillance
- 15 speakers from 11 countries
 - Epidemiologists
 - Vector control specialists
 - Laboratory scientists
- WHO Representatives
- Expert Epidemiologist Michael Favorov, CDC

PROGRAM/AGENDA

- Discussion & break out groups
- Defined surveillance as it relates to dengue
- Reviewed differences in regional guidelines
- Identified stakeholders and needs
- Studied real world issues in meeting the needs in dengue surveillance

ISSUES/WEAKNESSES IN DENGUE SURVEILLANCE-1

- Different criteria used in mandatory reporting (clinical/confirmed cases, daily, weekly, monthly)
- Delayed reporting and under-reporting
- Surveillance not real-time, does not allow prediction of future outbreaks
- Estimates of disease burden unreliable or absent

ISSUES/WEAKNESSES IN DENGUE SURVEILLANCE-2

- Lack of political will
- Issues surrounding legislation
- Lack of wider standardization
- Inadequate budget
- Insufficient entomological and virological surveillance
- Lack of cross-border sharing

STRENGTHS IN DENGUE SURVEILLANCE-1

- Improvement in infrastructure/manpower
- Standardized surveillance protocols
- Mandatory notification
- Interagency links, good collaboration
- IT developments, software, web-based applications effectively used

BEST PRACTICES-1

- Monitor seasonality, age distribution & transmission patterns
- Evaluate and guide introduction of a vaccine
 - Weekly incidence rates
 - Laboratory testing of representative samples
 - Annual distribution of serotypes and sequence analyses

BEST PRACTICES-2

- Monitor intervention programs
 - Baseline data-patterns of vector populations
 - Measure impact by disease reduction and outcome indicators (BI, HI, CI)
- GIS-should be introduced to increase likelihood of outbreak detection
- Identify target groups for regular feedback
- Develop mechanisms for international sharing of data

APDPB 2nd TECHNICAL MEETING

- 1-2 December, 2007, Bangkok
- Topic Laboratory Diagnostics
 - Review virologic/immunologic events in DF/DHF
 - Review diagnostic tests and interpretations
 - Review performance and predictive values of nondengue diagnostic tests (eg platelet count)
- Identify new diagnostic tests (PCR, NS1) incl. commercial kits
- Best practices and quality control and assurance

ACKOWLEDGEMENTS

- Members of the APDPB
- PDVI Secretariat
 - Dr. Harold S. Margolis (Director, PDVI)
 - Dr. Joel Kuritsky (Deputy Director, PDVI)
 - Dr. Richard Mahoney (Director, Vaccine Access)
 - Dr. Mark E. Beatty
 - Dr. Bill Letson
 - Dr. Dianna M. Edgil
 - Kim, Nam Hee