

MEDIA RELEASE



Date: 18 September, 2015
For immediate release

Papua New Guinea joins the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN)

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has joined the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN) and strengthened the globally recognized push for the region to become malaria-free by 2030.

APMEN brings together 18 countries in the Asia Pacific region that have adopted a national or sub-national goal for malaria elimination and connects them with a broad range of regional and global malaria partners to develop best practices in a united drive towards regional elimination.

Papua New Guinea has the highest number of confirmed cases in the Western Pacific region, with over 1.1 million confirmed cases and 307 deaths in 2013, according to the World Health Organization.

Secretary for Health in Papua New Guinea, Mr Pascoe Kase, said the official partnership with APMEN had been a priority for quite some time, and he is pleased to see this collaboration come to fruition.

“The PNG National Department of Health sees the partnership with APMEN as an avenue to develop technical knowledge and expertise to deal with the challenges of pre-elimination and then elimination of malaria,” Secretary Kase said.

“In return, PNG has in-depth experience and knowledge of working with the private sector for elimination in some of our provinces, and this information could be useful to the country partners of APMEN.”

Eliminating malaria is one of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals for PNG, which seeks to have malaria under control by 2015 and reverse the incidence of malaria by 2020.

Papua New Guinea’s new membership to the regional network provides the opportunity to share new insights and challenges to working towards malaria elimination with other APMEN Country Partners.

APMEN also hopes the partnership with PNG will help build new relationships and strengthen existing ones with groups such as Rotary Against Malaria, the PNG Institute of Medical Research, The Medicines for Malaria Venture and The PNG Industry Malaria Initiative.

Further information on APMEN, visit www.apmen.org, and find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Tag your tweets with #malariaelimination and #MFAP2030

ENDS

Media Contact:
Arna Chancellor (Program Manager)
APMEN Joint Secretariat,
Brisbane, Australia
T: +617 3365 5446
E: apmen@sph.uq.edu.au

Phone:(07) 33655446
www.apmen.org

APMEN Secretariat (UQ)
Room 117, Public Health Building,
University of Queensland,
Herston Road, Herston, 4006
Queensland, Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

About the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network

APMEN is composed of 18 Asia Pacific Country Partners in the region (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu and Vietnam) who currently share a common goal to eliminate malaria, either at the national or sub-national level.

Through strategic regional and global linkages with our Country Partner National Malaria Programs, academic and research institutions, funding bodies and stakeholders, as well as the World Health Organization (WHO), APMEN is working to strengthen malaria elimination efforts in the region.

APMEN is managed by a Joint-Secretariat from the Global Health Group at the University of California, San Francisco, and the School of Population Health at the University of Queensland. Major funding for APMEN is provided by the Australian Government via its Australian aid program. This funding complements Australia's overall support for malaria control and elimination in the Asia Pacific, and globally. APMEN also receives funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and many of our Country Partners and Partner Institutions contribute funds or in-kind support.



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

UCSF Global Health
Sciences
Global Health Group

Media Contact:
Arna Chancellor (Program Manager)
APMEN Joint Secretariat,
Brisbane, Australia
T: +617 3365 5446
E: apmen@sph.uq.edu.au

Phone:(07) 33655446
www.apmen.org

APMEN Secretariat (UQ)
Room 117, Public Health Building,
University of Queensland,
Herston Road, Herston, 4006
Queensland, Australia