
**Report
of
The First Meeting of The SEA Constituency of
the Global Fund
(June 2020 -May 2022)**

Virtual Meeting

20th of August 2020

Table of Contents

A. Executive Summary.....	3
B. Inaugural Session:.....	6
C. Business Session:.....	8
1. Appointment of Office Bearers:	8
2. Work Report of SEA Leaderships since 1 st June 2020:	8
3. Endorsement of SEA Annual Plan, Calendar of Activities and Annual SEA Budget:	8
4. Address of SEA Strategic Committee member on GF Strategy Development 2022-2026:	9
5. Presentation of the SEA position in the consultation GF Strategy development 2022-2026:	10
6. Nomination of candidates for member of AFC:.....	10
7. Reports from Partners:.....	11
8. Presentation of the report of the meeting:	14
9. Way Forward:	14
10. Closure of the Meeting with a Closing Statement.	14
D. Annexures of the SEA Constituency Meeting.....	15

A. Executive Summary

The SEA Constituency held its first virtual meeting under the current leadership's tenure of 2020-2022 cycle on 20th of August, 2020. The meeting was attended by SEA leadership – Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, BM, Dr Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, ABM and Ms Suneeta Chhetri, CFP and representatives of the CCM of the SEA countries - Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Maldives, and Myanmar Nepal and Sri Lanka were absent. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of bilateral and multilateral partners such as UNAIDS Asia and the Pacific, representatives of RBM Partnership to End Malaria, SRCMF and observers like the Implementers Group Leadership of the Global Fund, representatives from the Global Fund Secretariat and Aidsfan. WHO SEARO regretted their attendance.

The meeting began with a welcome note by Ms. Suneeta Chhetri, Constituency Focal Point, Inaugural speeches of eminent SEA Leadership - BM Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, ABM D. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva and Vote of Thanks delivered by the Chair of Bhutan CCM.

The office bearers appointed by the meeting were - Dr. Abul Faiz, from Bangladesh CCM as chair, and Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, from CCM India, as co-chair. Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo, Director, NAP, (Myanmar) as Rapporteur and Ms. Gitanjali Mohanty, Coordinator, India CCM Secretariat as co Rapporteur.

The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the Global Fund Strategy development for 2022-2026 for submission to the Global Fund before the meeting of the Strategy Committee scheduled in October 2020 and review and endorse the annual constituency plan, budget, and activities of year 1 of the 2020 to 2022 period.

Delegates were updated by SEA GF Board Member on the SEA leadership on activities carried out by the SEA Board leadership since 01st of June 2020. The constituency leadership was involved in a series of informal board call meetings, organized on an urgent basis, on Global Fund grant management and COVID-19 Response. And a series of Working Group sessions of the Implementers' Group. BM invited ABM and any interested members of the SEA CCMs to co-opt as member of different Working Groups of the Implementers' Group to help Implementers' Group play a dynamic role in the Global Fund Board.

Ms. Suneeta Chhetri, the Constituency Focal Person (CFP), presented the 2020-2022 constituency work plan.

Dasho Kunzang Wangdi shared the responses of the questionnaire for inputs into the development of the Global Fund Strategy for 2022-2026 and responses received from SEA BM, SRCMF and Bhutan CCM in anticipation of responses from other SEA CCMs. Dr. Suriya Wongkongkathap, SEA Member of the Strategy Committee of the Global Fund updated the meeting on the Global Fund Strategy development for 2022-2026. The meeting suggested that while the delegates in their individual capacity and collectively through their respective CCMs can contribute to the strategy development. The SEA Constituency can collectively make their contribution to the strategy development and submitted to the Global Fund. Many CCM delegates requested for more time to make their contribution, owing to their priority in submitting their country proposals to the Global Fund and the process thereof.

On the Impact of COVID-19 on HIV and mitigation measures in the SEA countries, Ms. Shona Wynd, UNAIDS Senior Policy Advisor in Asia-Pacific, new HIV infection rates declined over the last decade. However, the decline has stalled to the point of a plateau. In 2019, 98% of new HIV infections in the region were among key populations and their partners. On the impact of COVID-19 on HIV response, preliminary information indicates the lack or limited access to treatment and prevention, including HIV testing, due to COVID-19 will eventually impact on the HIV response. The restricted movements and lockdowns implemented in the region due to COVID-19 resulted in isolation, loss of work, and devastating economic impact on vulnerable and particularly to key populations. COVID-19 has terribly hit sex workers as their livelihood was cut off overnight and has continued to struggle to feed themselves or their families. Social protection efforts are not enough. COVID-19 is thus reversing the gains made in the fight against HIV. The pandemic is threatening to return the region to the early days of HIV response when some people were engaging in risky behaviors. Shona Wynd pointed out that, “if you are a sex worker, and you have the choice between having unprotected sex and eating, I think you would probably choose to eat.” In addition, there are challenges such as stockouts and shortages of ARVs. Countries such as Indonesia and Nepal, have struggled to get supplies across the borders and distribution within their jurisdiction.

On nomination of candidates for member of audit and finance committee, the meeting resolved that the committee to decide on the nominee to represent the constituency in the Audit and Finance (AFC) committee of the Global Fund at it earliest.

Dr. Jigmi Singay, the Executive Secretary of the South East Asia Regional Coordination Mechanism Forum (SRCMF), highlighted the historical journey of the region toward the creation of the SRCMF. He also revealed that the challenges the SEA region faced when submitting a regional funding request to the Global Fund also contributed to the formation of the SRCMF. The main roles of the SRCMF included coordination of the regional activities, including the development and submission of a regional funding request to the Global Fund and resource mobilization. RBM Partnership to End Malaria funded the first RCM meeting held on 1-2 November 2019.

The meeting approved the SEA Constituency Work Plan and Budget. It decided that each CCM in the region to share their inputs on the new Global Fund strategy development through the SEA Constituency but a CCM can do so also directly to the Global Fund via its website portal. Also the nomination committee to decide on the person to represent the SEA constituency in the Audit and Finance (AFC) committee of the Global Fund at the earliest. The SRCMF to convene its General and Executive Meetings to decide on plans and programmes on a proactive basis as it was registered as RCM by the SEA Constituency help it in effectively resolving the cross-border issues and challenges that require bilateral and multilateral interventions. The Meeting was closed by the Chair with the wish from the BM for face to face meeting of the SEA constituency soon in the near future.

B. Inaugural Session:

Dasho Kunzung Wangdi, GF Board Member, SEA Constituency, formally inaugurated the meeting by lighting of *karmey* in memory of all those who have lost their lives due to the three diseases and also due to COVID-19. In Opening Address, BM hoped that every member country and CCM are coping up well under the guidance and support of all associated in the coordination of the Global Fund's operations to eradicate the three dreaded diseases. BM updated the situation of Bhutan and the COVID-19 pandemic under the leadership of His Majesty The King, with the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Health Minister's active efforts in successfully combatting it. BM further added that as Bhutan and India, two neighbors elected to represent the South East Asia (SEA) Constituency on the Board for the period June 2020 to May 2022, despite the pandemic, we are confident to offer our wholehearted participation in our endeavor to help the Global Fund meet its Goals.

BM thanked former Board Member, Respected Dr. Abul Faiz and CFP Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas for their services.

He reported that upon assuming the offices, The SEA Leadership has been actively participating in the Global Fund and the SEA Constituency activities, and ImpGroup. The BM called upon the SEA CCMs has to take advantage of the consultation process of the formulation of the next strategy of the Global Fund, while meeting and managing the challenges of the COVID-19. In this, we have the benefit of the presence of Dr. Suriya, SEA Member of Strategy Committee.

Hence he highlighted the following objectives of the meeting:

- 1) discuss and agree on SEA proposals on shaping the new GF strategy that is being developed;
- 2) appraise the member countries on decisions and activities of the board and committees and new developments in the Global Fund; and
- 3) endorse the SEA Work Plan, SEA Constituency Calendar of Activities and the SEA Constituency Budget.

Lastly he extended the warmest welcome to the Alternate Board Member, SEA CCM Chairs Representatives from each SEA CCMs, Representatives from the UNAIDS, Global Fund

Governance Team, RBM Partnership, SRCMF, GF Implementers Group and Bhutan CCM to a very fruitful meeting. (Refer Annexure 3 for full Opening Address).

Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, Alternate Board Member, SEA Constituency, in his Opening Address appraised all regarding the COVID-19 situation in India. He said till date there were about 2.8 million COVID-19 cases in India. This has caused a decrease in case notification in TB and Malaria and has caused severe inconveniences to people affected with HIV, TB and Malaria. He articulated the need to strengthen the health system to face eventualities. He also lay emphasis on the funding needs and that it needs to be articulated properly to the Global Fund for necessary action.

This was followed by a round of introduction of all the participants of the meeting, beginning with the CCM from the SEA Constituency and the partners and observers. (Refer Annexure 2 for the list of the participants).

Mr. Sonam Dorji, Chairperson of Bhutan CCM, host CCM of the Secretariat of the GF Board SEA Constituency, proposed Vote of Thanks for the Opening Ceremony which had to be held virtually. He thanked the SEA Leadership for taking their huge commitment in playing a big role at the Global Fund Board on behalf of the SEA Constituency. He thanked all the delegates of the CCM, and the partner agencies for sparing their precious time, active participation and continued engagement with SEA Constituency. He lastly thanked the CFP/ CCM Coordinator for the Constituency engagement and coordinating to make this SEA Constituency Meeting conclude smoothly.

It was followed by agenda wise presentations and related discussions during the meeting:

C. Business Session:

1. Appointment of Office Bearers:

The business started with the appointment of Office Bearers. The meeting appointed Prof. Abul Fiaz, Bangladesh CCM as Chairperson and Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, Focal Point, India CCM, as the Co-Chair to convene the meeting of the SEA Constituency held on 20th August 2020.

The meeting also appointed the Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo, Director, NAP, Myanmar as Rapporteur and Ms. Gitanjali Mohanty, Coordinator, India CCM Secretariat, as co Rapporteur.

Approval of the Agenda: All the participants approved the agenda of the meeting as was presented. (Refer Annexure 1 for the Concept Note and the Agenda)

2. Work Report of SEA Leaderships since 1st June 2020:

Dasho Kunzang Wangdi, BM, reported that a series of informal board related meetings the SEA leadership were attended since 01st of June 2020, some urgent decision making on number of issues, such as use of wambo.org for the procurement of COVID-19 related activities; ensure quality and solving the electronic issues etc. The most significant was the Malaria and COVID-19 one where the SEA presented on the issues of Malaria and COVID-19 mitigation and the Global Fund's COVID-19 Response Mechanism in the SEA region.

The BM invited ABM and any interested members of the SEA CCMs to co-opt as member of different Working Groups of the Implementers' Group to help Implementers' Group play a dynamic role in contributing to the sound decisions by the Global Fund Board.

3. Endorsement of SEA Annual Plan, Calendar of Activities and Annual SEA Budget:

Ms. Suneeta Chhetri, CFP, presented that the total budget ceiling of the SEA Constituency for 3 years is 336,399 USD. She informed that the last SEA Retreat meeting held in December 2019 was presented with that workplan and budget the bank and details of the new SEA Leadership was submitted to the Global Fund, however now with due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the budget at least for year-1 is likely to change, particularly on that Activities of the SEA Constituency Meeting and the Global Fund Board Meetings.

In addition, she informed that the Global Fund informed that Activity 1.07. SEA Leadership Meeting and 1.09. Travel to SEA Countries is not supported by the policy for Constituency funding and hence was asked to be removed from the work plan.

Discussion: On the Activities - 1.07. SEA Leadership Meeting and 1.09. Travel to SEA Countries, the meeting suggested not to remove it from the work plan

Delegates from Maldives, India, Bangladesh, and Indonesia suggested including activities for improving the internet connectivity in the work plan of the SEA. Dr. Samhari Baswedan, Indonesia CCM, remarked that budget on strengthening communications can be included in the CCM budget instead of the SEA budget. BM recalled the rationale applied at the SEA Leadership Retreat at Jaipur why these activities were included in the Budget as the SEA Constituency in order to effectively support the CCMs and assist Board require adequate financial support. Which unlike in cases of other constituencies of GF has not many other options except to seek support of GF, as an exception. This issue was raised in IMG Retreat at Senegal and in the Pre-Board Sessions of GF. He strongly felt that therefore the activities to be retained and GF be requested once again to support if possible. Failing which SEA Constituency will have choice but to explore other options.

Decision: The budget in principle is endorsed, CFP was recommended to take the above suggestions in consideration and revisit the budget and submit to the GF.

4. Address of SEA Strategic Committee member on GF Strategy Development 2022-2026:

Dr. Suriya Wongkongkathap, SEA Member of the Strategy Committee of the Global Fund updated the meeting on the Global Fund Strategy development for 2022-2026. He requested that the

delegates in their individual capacity and collectively through their respective CCMs and the SEA Constituency to make their contribution to the strategy development.

5. Presentation of the SEA position in the consultation GF Strategy development 2022-2026:

BM pending the inputs from the other CCMs presented the answers on the strategy questionnaire received from the BM, SRCMF and Bhutan CCM as it was received for information of the participants.

Discussion: Participants shared important ideas. They explained that the current strategy had worked well for the region. However, they discussed the relative importance of the burden of TB in the region compared to HIV and malaria and requested that more attention be paid to TB. Participants also highlighted the importance of health system strengthening, especially as some SEA countries inch toward transitioning out of the Global Fund support due to rising income and reducing the burden of HIV, TB, and malaria. Some participants requested that during grants proposals and grant-making, countries do not forget displaced or refugee populations in HIV and malaria prevention and treatment.

The other CCM delegates requested for more time to make their contribution; some requested to send it by email because of poor-quality internet connection. The meeting resolved that CCMs should provide their input to the strategy through the SEA Constituency but could also do so directly at the Global Fund website.

6. Nomination of candidates for member of AFC:

CFP updated that nominations request were sent to the CCMs of the SEA Constituency and nominations from Bhutan, India and Timor Leste were received, however after discussion with the SEA Leadership, the CCMs of the three countries- Bangladesh, Maldives and Thailand, via a letter dated on 10th of August 2020, were requested to form a committee and make a decision on the

nomination for Audit and Finance Committee (AFC), GF from SEA Constituency which will be transmitted to the GF Secretariat.

Decision: As the three countries took time to respond in the given time, the SEA Constituency Meeting held on the 20th of August 2020 suggested having a separate meeting of the committee and update the SEA CCM while CFP will submit the final nomination to the Global Fund.

7. Reports from Partners:

7.1. Impact of COVID-19 on HIV and Mitigation measures by SEA countries: Dr Shona Wynd, Senior Policy Advisor, Regional Support Team, Asia and the Pacific, UNAIDS, presented on the new HIV infections in the region and the diverse trends in the Asian and Pacific countries. She informed that there has been an increasing trend of HIV incidence among the young age group people (15-24 years) and also among MSMs especially in the region and there is unequal progress in AIDS response in Asia and the Pacific region. Further updates were made on the innovations in the field of HIV such as PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis), and pointed out the importance of HIV self-testing since about half the key population are not even aware about their HIV status. She emphasized the devastating impact of COVID-19 pandemic in Asia-Pacific countries on sex workers and other key populations. She highlighted the importance of multi month dispensing (3 months/6 months) of ART to PLHIVs in Asia Pacific countries. She also spoke about the need to deal with stock-outs especially during COVID-19 pandemic times, resource availability and fast-track resource needs in the Asia Pacific region and also regarding the importance of enabling environment in these difficult times. In her concluding remarks, she emphasized the urgent need for collective action of the entire Asia Pacific region in response to HIV along with COVID-19 pandemic. Chair of the meeting requested for data from SEA Countries to be presented in the future meetings, rather than AP Countries for better clarity.

7.2. RBM Partnership: Dr. Melanie Renshaw from RBM partnership gave a brief introduction about RBM. RBM has 500 partners globally and supports the Global Fund in the funding request

proposal development process. Helps in resolving bottlenecks, resource mobilization and also support in COVID-19 response mechanism. Highlighted importance of border cooperation. She apprised the meeting that RBM is coordinating a sub regional proposal for USD 900,000 for 3 years. The draft proposal had been resubmitted to the Grants Approval Committee of the Global Fund which has now been approved. Following the feedback received, a full proposal needs to be developed and support may start from January 2021.

Discussion: Dr. Faiz thanked Dr. Melanie and said that more than a million of Greater Mekong sub-region resides in Bangladesh and stressed on the need of increased surveillance of emergence of resistance in the particular region. Ms Rita, added that support for sub-regional is appreciated. Dr. Jigmi expressed his gratitude to Dr. Melanie and RBM partnership especially for representing the South East Asia region. Co-financing modality is being developed. Positive condition and progress will be informed. Dr. Melanie responded that the Sub-regional elimination is ongoing in some area, and impact on neighbor country is something she urged the Constituency to look at and for another opportunity for elimination programme.

7.3. Update and report on SRCMF: Dr. Jigmi Singay, Executive Secretary, SRCMF Secretariat presented the historical background of SRCMF. He informed that there are biannual meetings and emphasized on the need for proper coordination at the regional level among the SEA constituency and with other constituencies and other relevant regional bodies. He informed that the RCM was initially launched in Yangon in 2018 wherein he was appointed the Executive Secretary. It was further decided to have the Secretariat at New Delhi and is now functioning from IIHMR, New Delhi. The 1st RCM meeting was held in Thimphu (1-2nd November, 2019) with funding support from RBM to end Malaria and UNOPS- A major milestone activity wherein following key recommendations were made:

Malaria elimination should be given the first priority for regional proposal for acceleration of Malaria elimination esp. along bordering countries. An EoI focusing on seven Countries in the Indian Sub-Continent as ‘Himalayan malaria elimination on cross border and mobile-migrant population’ should be prepared for submission to Global Fund.

Due to lack of concrete evidence on the actual disease burden situation along cross border areas, RCM secretariat was entrusted to generate and collate concrete evidence on the extent and determinants of population movement across borders, vulnerability of such populations in consultation with CCM.

RCM Secretariat to work with National programs for developing a multi-country TB-elimination demonstration project at district level in wake of meeting SDG goal of ending TB by 2030 (by 2025 in India) in the region. To work with CCMs and National Programs on prioritizing strengthening of health system capacity especially health workforce in districts on both sides of the international borders.

RCM Secretariat to work with CCMs in planning and mobilizing domestic funding for three diseases in order to sustain the elimination of three diseases.

The 2nd SRCMF meeting was held virtually on 5th June 2020. The major focus of the meeting was on the impact COVID -19 in the SEA region and the disruption of essential health services due to it. He informed that the SRCMF has now been formally registered under the India Company Act and has now opened an Indian Currency account. He also informed about the regional funding proposal which is being developed to be submitted for SDF [SAARC Development Funding]. SRCMF applied for USD 500,000. Applications to be made under Social Window and opportunities for co-financing. Work Plan 2021: Consultations are underway with SCRMF members and partners from September 2020. Funding request to be done in the last quarter. Support from World Bank and Asian Development Bank. He also spoke about the priority areas of SRCMF. Cross border elimination of the diseases. He appraised that we have to first mobilize co funding. The working committee will work in this direction and go in for a new proposal development. He emphasized on how to accelerate mitigation of the devastating effects of COVID-19 on HIV TB and Malaria in the region.

Decision: During this meeting, delegates mandated the SRCMF to advocate for regional funding from the Global Fund for cross-border COVID-19 response in the region. The SRCMF was also mandated by the SEA GF Constituency to facilitate the coordination of cross-border malaria interventions between Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

8. Presentation of the report of the meeting:

Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo, Director, NAP, Myanmar, the appointed Rapporteur of the meeting presented the Rapporteur report to the participants present.

9. Way Forward:

The meeting ended with approval of the SEA Constituency Work Plan and Budget. It decided that CCMs in the region to share their inputs on the new Global Fund strategy development through the SEA Constituency but a CCM can do so also directly to the Global Fund via its website portal. Also the nomination committee to decide on the person to represent the SEA constituency in the Audit and Finance (AFC) committee of the Global Fund at the earliest. The SRCMF to convene its General an Executive Meetings to decide on its plans and programmes on a proactive basis as it was registered as RCM of the SEA Constituency cross-border issues has adverse bearing on the attainment of the GF goals for the region.

10. Closure of the Meeting with a Closing Statement.

The Meeting closed with the remarks from the Office Bearers Prof Faiz Abul, Chair of the meeting and Dr K.S. Sachdeva, co chair of the meeting thanking the participants for appointing them as the office bearers and for successful input from all the participating countries of the CM of the SEA Constituency and also from the partners.

The BM, Dasho Kunzang Wangdi in his closing statement thanked Prof Faiz Abul for Chairing the meeting and Dr K.S. Sachdeva, co chairing the meeting and also all the participants for successful deliberations of the meetings and wished all a safe stay and stronger efforts in fighting against the three diseases in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The BM further added the closure with a hope for face to face meeting of the SEA constituency soon in the near future.

D. Annexures of the SEA Constituency Meeting

Annexure 1:

CONCEPT NOTE

for

The First Meeting of the South East Asia (SEA) Constituency of the Global Fund (June 2020 – May 2022)

(Virtual)

Thursday 20th of August 2020

Background:

The South East Asia (SEA) Constituency is represented by the Kingdom of Bhutan and Republic of India on the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) for the period June 2020 to May 2022.

Accordingly, *Dasho* Kunzang Wangdi, Board Member (BM), Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, Alternate Board Member (ABM) and Ms. Suneeta Chhetri, Constituency Focal Point (CFP) respectively have assumed their duties since May 2020.

The SEA Leadership have been actively participating in the Global Fund and the SEA Constituency in numerous activities and meetings of the Global Fund Board, Board Committees, Implementers Group, South Asia Regional Coordination Mechanism Forum (SRCMF) and the related stakeholders, generally, virtually.

Despite the setback of the COVID-19 Pandemic that has caused numerous challenges we all agree that it gave us many unprecedented opportunities to be innovative and efficient in working.

Working from home has provided safety yet may have taken toll on health of few, as social interactions an important aspect of human living was constrained. We are optimistic that we may able to have face to face meetings soon.

The SEA Board Leadership shares our great concern of the challenges posed by COVID-19 Pandemic to all, yet would like to express our happiness and gratitude for your active role in sustaining the progress made in our fight to eliminate the three diseases.

First SEA Constituency Meeting

In this regard, we hope the first SEA Constituency Meeting of the present leadership with SEAR Member countries and other stakeholders (WHO, SEARO, UNAIDS, SRCMF) will help us know each other and share experiences, and exchange ideas. Above all, we would be able to discuss way forward together to translate the Global Fund Strategy intelligently and purposefully.

Objectives

We expect our meeting to fulfil mainly the following objectives, to:

1. *discuss* and *agree* on SEA proposals on shaping the new GF strategy that is being developed;
2. *appraise* the member countries on decisions and activities of the board and committees and new developments in the Global Fund; and
3. *endorse* the SEA Work Plan and SEA Constituency Calendar of Activities and the SEA Constituency Budget.

Participants:

The SEA Constituency Virtual Meeting is expected to be attended by the SEA Board Leadership (Board Member, Alternate Board Member, and CFP) and SEA CCM Representatives from each CCMs of the SEA and Representatives from WHO SEARO, UNAIDS, Global Fund, RBM

Partnership to End Malaria, SRCMF (South East Asia - Regional Coordination Mechanism Fund), GF Implementers Group and also the AIDSPAN are invited as indicated in the following table:

Sl. No.	Participants	Total	Remarks
1.	SEA GF Board Member – (Bhutan)	1	
2.	SEA GF Alternate Board Member - (India)	1	
3.	SEA CFP- (Bhutan)	1	
4.	CCM (Bhutan)	2	
5.	CCM (Bangladesh)	2	
6.	CCM (DPRK)	2	
7.	CCM (India)	2	
8.	CCM (Indonesia)	2	
9.	CMM (Maldives)	2	
10.	CCM (Myanmar)	2	
11.	CCM (Nepal)	2	
12.	CCM (Thailand)	2	
13.	CCM (Timor-Leste)	2	
14.	CCM (Sri Lanka)	2	
15.	WHO SEARO	2	
16.	SRCMF Executive Secretary	1 to 2	
17.	RBM Partnership to End Malaria	1	
18.	Global Fund Secretariat	2 to 3	
19.	UNAIDS Asia and the Pacific	1	
20.	GF Implementers Group Leadership	1	
21.	AIDSPAN	1 or 2	

Agenda

The *Tentative* Agenda of the Meeting is:

SEA Constituency Meeting

Meeting URL: https://bluejeans.com/231341015?src=join_info

Meeting ID: 231 341 015

Tentative Agenda

Date: Thursday 20th of August 2020

Time: 11.30 am - 5.00 pm (BTT) / 11.00 am – 04.30 pm (IST)

Time	Agenda Items	Responsible person(s)
11.30 am – 12.00 am	<p><u>Inaugural Session</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Welcome by CFP2) Lighting of <i>Karmey</i> in memory of those who passed away due to three diseases.3) Opening Address by Board Member.4) Address by Alternate Board Member.5) Introduction of Participants - Members of SEA CCMs delegates.6) Vote of Thanks by Chairperson of Bhutan CCM.	SEA CFP

12.00 pm – 12.10 pm	<u>Business Session</u> Appointment of Office Bearers: 1) Chairperson and Co-Chair of the Meeting 2) Rapporteur	SEA CCM Representatives
12.10 pm – 12.15 pm	Approval of the Agenda	Chairperson
12.15 pm – 12.30 pm	Work Report of SEA Leaderships since 1 st of June 2020	BM
12.30 pm – 12.55 pm	Endorsement of the SEA Annual Plan, Calendar of Activities and Annual SEA Budget	CFP
12.55 pm – 01.40 pm	Address of SEA Strategic Committee Member on GF Strategy Development	Dr. Suriya Wongkongkathep, Member GF SC
01.40 pm – 02.10 pm	Presentation of the SEA Position in the Consultation GF Strategy Development 2022-2026	BM
02.10pm-02.15 pm	Nomination of Candidates for Member of AFC	BM
02.15 pm – 02.40 pm	Break	
02.40 pm – 04.20 pm	Reports from Partners: 1) Impact of COVID-19 on HIV and Mitigation measures by SEA Countries.	Dr Shona Wynd, Senior Policy Advisor, Regional

	<p>2) RBM Partnership.</p> <p>3) Update and Report on SRCMF (Regional RCM).</p>	<p>Support Team, Asia and the Pacific, UNAIDS</p> <p>Dr Melanie Renshaw, Chief Technical Advisor.</p> <p><i>Lyonpo</i> Dr. Jigmi Singay, Executive Secretary, SRCMF Secretariat</p>
04.20 pm – 04.40 pm	Presentation of the Report of the Meeting.	Rapporteur
04.40pm - 05.00pm	Remarks from SEA GF ABM.	Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, ABM
	Way forward.	BM
	Closure of the Meeting with a Closing Statement.	Chairperson

Annexure 2:

SEA Meeting 20 Aug 2020_ Participants

Sl	Countries/ Partners	Name	Designation	Organisation	Email
1	Bhutan	Dasho Kunzang Wangdi	Board Member	HM Secretariat	dashokunzang@gmail.com
2	India	Dr. K. S. Sachdeva	Alternate Board Member	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India	ddg@rntcp.org
3	Bhutan	Suneeta Chhetri	Constituency Focal Point	CCM Secretariat	bhutanccm@gmail.com
4	Bangladesh	Kazi Zebunnessa Begum	CCM Chair		whwing@hsd.gov.bd
5	Bangladesh	Prof Abdul Faiz			drmafaiz@gmail.com
6	Bhutan	Mr Sonam Dorji	Chairperson	Bhutan CCM	ed@abto.org.bt
9	India	Mr Alok Saxena	Joint Secretary (GFATM)	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India	js@naco.gov.in
10	India	Ms Gitanjali Mohanty	Coordinator, India CCM	India CCM Secretariat	iccmsect-mohfw@gov.in
11	Indonesia	Mr Samhari Baswedan	Executive Secretary	CCM Indonesia	samharib@yahoo.com
12	Indonesia	Ms Rita	CCM Vice Chair	CCM Indonesia	
13	Maldives	Mr Ahmed Afaal	Chair	ADK Hospital Maldives	hameed@health.gov.mv

14	Maldives	Abdul Hameed	Global Fund Focal Point	Health Promotion Agency	ahmed.afaal@gmail.com
15	Myanmar	Dr. Thandar Lwin	Deputy Director General, and Secretary	Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health and Sport./ Communicable Disease Executive Working Group/CCM Myanmar	thandarlwin@mohs.gov.mm
16	Myanmar	Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo	Director, and Chair	National AIDS Programme, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health and Sport. / HIV/AIDS Technical Strategy Group	tunnyuntoo@mohs.gov.mm
21	Timor Leste	Ms Judite Dias Ximenes	CCM Vice Chair	CCM Timor Leste	juditediximenes@gmail.com
22	Timor Leste	Mr Noe Gaspar	CCM Executive Secretary	CCM Timor Leste	noe_gaspar77@yahoo.com
23	Thailand	Dr. Suriya Wongkongkathep MD, MPH	Public Health Consultant Former Deputy Permanent Secretary, MOPH Thailand		suriya@health.moph.go.th
24	Thailand	Dr Phusit	Acting Senior Advisor on Health Promotion	Office of Permanent Secretary, Thai-MOPH	

26	UNAIDS	Ms Shona Wynd	Senior Policy Adviser	Asia and the Pacific UNAIDS	wynds@unaid.org
27	ImG of GF	Major General (Rtd) Dr Gerald Gwinji	ImG Leadership (Vice Chair)	Secretary In The Civil Service, Office Of The President and Cabinet Public Health Specialist, Family Health Practioner	ggwinji@gmail.com
29	Global Fund Secretariat	Camila Vega Forero	Governance Specialist	GF	Camila.VegaForero@theglobalfund.org
30	SRCMF Secretariat	Dr Jigmi Singay	Executive Secretary	SRCMF	jigmi2118@gmail.com
31	RBM Partnership to End Malaria	Dr Melanie Renshaw	Regional Tecnhical Advisor	RBM Partnership to End Malaria	
32	AIDSPAN	Ms. Ida Hakizinka	Executive Director	AIDSPAN	ida.hakizinka@aidspan.org
33	AIDSPAN	Ms Djesika Amendah	Senior Policy Analyst	AIDSPAN	djesika.amendah@aidspan.org
34	AIDSPAN	Ms. Ann Ithibu	Policy Analyst	AIDSPAN	ann.ithibu@aidspan.org
35	AIDSPAN	Mr. Samuel Muniu	Research Assistant	AIDSPAN	samuel.muniu@aidspan.org

Annexure 3:

Opening Address of the SEA GF Board Member Dasho Kunzang Wangdi at the First Meeting of
the SEA Constituency of the Global Fund (June 2020 -May 2022)

Held at Thursday 20th of August 2020.

**Distinguished ABM Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva,
Major General Dr. Gwinji, Vice Chair, Implementers' Group, Global Fund
Executive Secretary Lyonpo Dr. Jigme Singye, South East Asia Regional Communication
Mechanism Forum (SRCMF),
Respected CCM Chairs,
Constituency Focal Point (CFP) Ms. Suneeta Chettri,
Executive Secretaries of CCMs,
Participants, and
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Good morning, afternoon and good evening to all.

I join CFP and heartily extend my welcome to all.

Despite the Pandemic, I am confident that every member country and CCM are coping up well under the guidance and support of all associated in the coordination of the Global Fund's operations to eradicate the three dreaded diseases.

The challenges of the pandemic, as far as my country, the Kingdom of Bhutan, is concerned are being effectively managed under personal care of HM The King, our Head of State.

His Majesty The King has made it His personal mission to keep the virus away from Bhutan, and to keep every Bhutanese safe from harm's way. He walks the talk and He is at the frontlines of the international borders leading by example.

Bhutan is also fortunate to have a Council of Elected Ministers, most of whom are health professionals. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister is a surgeon, the Health Minister was a GF

consultant trainer, the Finance Minister was GF HIV Project Manager and finally our Foreign Minister was a pediatrician and a GF LFA.

For your kind information, travel in Bhutan has a compulsory 21 days quarantine to totally rule out transmission of virus from returnees to Bhutan.

There is entertainment on a dedicated TV channels to entertain and educate. There is also a yoga and meditation programme to motivate physical fitness, along with other mental health programmes geared to raise high spirit and morale of people in quarantine and isolation.

Youth have taken up agricultural activities and other trades to help produce local substitute products when imports are not any longer possible. Youth have also joined as guardians of peace to help security forces to guard transmission by adventurous and reckless.

Health Ministry also coordinated a mock exercise, to prepare the people on how to face a lockdown. We are now in one from 11th of August 2020.

To keep all people healthy and prevented from virus attacks, all elderly and people with pre-existing medical conditions are supplied with multi-vitamins and essential medicines by His Majesty The King. And His Holiness the Je Khenpo has distributed holy pills to every Bhutanese living.

We are blessed with Kings who are not rulers but servers, and protectors of the people. As a result, after seventh months we only have 150 cases and most whom recovering, without losing a single soul.

Bhutan is the only nation on this Globe where Heads of State and Government are physically ensuring the wellbeing of every single citizen.

Till this week, we have been able to stay safe sans any community transmission. The whole country is focusing all efforts and attention to every aspect of living, and being prepared for the future, though having to live under the stress of the pandemic.

We pray and we are confident that our frontline COVID-19 soldiers will succeed. We wish the same to all our SEA Nations and their peoples.

As Bhutan and India, two neighbors elected to represent the South East Asia (SEA) Constituency on the Board for the period June 2020 to May 2022, despite the pandemic, we are confident to offer our wholehearted participation in our endeavor to help the Global Fund meet its Goals.

Therefore, today, first and foremost, let me thank the Royal Government of Bhutan and Bhutan CCM for nominating me as one of the three candidates. And secondly, I would like to thank the SEA CCMs for electing me as a Board Member. I am fortunate to have Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva, a senior and experienced officer of the Government of India as the colleague, and the most competent Ms. Suneeta Chhetri, as the SEA Constituency Focal Point.

Three of us together, working as a team and with your support, we commit to serve the SEA Constituency and people affected by three diseases with sincerity and utmost dedication.

I would, on behalf of the SEA Constituency and on my own, like to seize this opportunity to also thank once again the former Board Member, Respected Dr. Abul Faiz and CFP Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas for the priceless services. I had enjoyed working with them in better times than now as the SEA ABM for the last two years.

We are happy to report that upon assuming the offices, The SEA Leadership have been actively participating in the Global Fund and the SEA Constituency activities. The meetings of the Global Fund Board, Board Committees, Implementers Group, South Asia Regional Coordination Mechanism Forum (SRCMF) and the related stakeholders, virtually.

We are also serving as member of four Working groups of ImpGroup on Absorption, Governance Culture, Strategy Development, and Community, Rights and Gender.

Now as we travel on our journey, by not leaving anyone behind, we need to organize ourselves and recalibrate our strategies to reach the goals without being undermined by the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, SEA CCMs has to take advantage of the consultation process of the formulation of the next strategy of the Global Fund, while meeting and managing the challenges of the COVID. In this, we have the benefit of the presence of Dr. Suriya, SEA Member of Strategy Committee.

The SEA Constituency has concerns regarding how to effectively address cross border issues related to Malaria, HIV and TB, and had proposed during the constituency meeting in 2016 to form a regional mechanism of the SEA. It is now formed with its registration as South Asia Regional Communication Mechanism Forum (SRCMF), based in Delhi, India, with Dr. Jigme Singay as Executive Secretary. It is the SEA CCMs' baby. We hope, it will start serving our needs as we endeavor to effectively address the South Asian cross-border issues, more so this time than ever, because of the COVID-19.

In this context, the SEA Constituency Leadership has called this first meeting of our tenure to (1) introduce ourselves as the Board Member (BM) and the Alternate Board Member (ABM) of the SEA Constituency with leadership of SEA CCMs and to meet our valued stakeholders (UNAIDS, RBM Partnership, etc.) and (2) to help us share experiences and exchange ideas, to contribute meaningfully move forward together, to translate the Global Fund Strategy intelligently and purposefully.

We hope our deliberations will not only effectively address our needs but would be able to help GF achieve its Global goals.

Therefore, we expect our meeting to mainly fulfill the following objectives :

1. *discuss* and *agree* on SEA proposals on shaping the new GF strategy that is being developed;

2. *appraise* the member countries on decisions and activities of the board and committees and new developments in the Global Fund; and
3. *endorse* the SEA Work Plan, SEA Constituency Calendar of Activities and the SEA Constituency Budget.

Once again, I extend my warmest welcome to the Respected Alternate Board Member, SEA CCM Chairs Representatives from each SEA CCMs, Representatives from WHO SEARO, UNAIDS, Global Fund Governance Team, RBM Partnership, SRCMF, GF Implementers Group and Bhutan LFA. And I look forward to a very fruitful meeting.

Thank you