

**PROGRAMME MANAGERS' MEETING ON ELIMINATION OF KALA-AZAR
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION, FARIDABAD, HARYANA, INDIA, 17-19
FEBRUARY 2009**

A meeting of the Programme Managers' of Bangladesh, India and Nepal was held in Haryana, India, 17-19 February 2009 on Elimination of Kala-azar in the South East Asia Region with the objective to review the situation of Kala-azar in South East Asia Region, the progress made so far and to identify the gaps and constraints in the elimination programme as well as to finalize the indicators for monitoring and evaluation of the programme.

Recommendations:

It was recommended for the Member States:

- (1) To intensify and scale up the elimination of Kala Azar by ensuring availability of adequate human and financial resources, logistics and quality of services;
- (2) To build capacity of human resources at different levels of programme implementation;
- (3) To foster partnerships with non-government and private sector under the leadership of government;
- (4) To establish cross-border collaboration for synchronizing implementation strategies;
- (5) To identify research priorities and generate evidences for cost-effective and sustainable interventions in collaboration with research institutions;
- (6) To monitor the progress in implementation of the national Kala-Azar elimination program, identify the gaps/constraints and improve/remove them as per the regional and national strategy;
- (7) To carry out independent evaluation as per the MOU and
- (8) To revisit the use of insecticides (DDT/SP) as strategy based on its susceptibility.

Recommendations to the WHO:

- (1) To convene a high level meeting of the four endemic countries at least once every two years to review progress of KA elimination and recommend way forward;
- (2) To constitute a task force to workout indicators and appropriate information technology for the elimination programme;
- (3) To constitute an expert group for reviewing the evidence of effectiveness of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs)/Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs) for the elimination programme;
- (4) To provide a forum for sharing of country experience and facilitate the cross border collaboration.
- (5) Need for review and extension of the MOU between IND, NEP, BAN for KAE whose life ends in 2010; and
- (6) WHO in collaboration with partners like World Bank can consider to explore the possibility to create common drug facility for the region for ensuring drug security for RDKs and drugs on the line of GDF in TB.

**MEETING OF THE HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRIES OF
BANGLADESH, INDIA AND NEPAL ON ELIMINATION OF KALA-AZAR
FROM THE THREE COUNTRIES, HELD IN SEARO, NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY
2009**

The high level meeting reviewed the progress made and discussed the strategies for accelerating Kala-azar elimination programme in the years to come. They reaffirmed their commitments to achieve elimination goal of the disease by 2015.