The Work of WHO in the South-East Asia Region
2012: Year of Intensification of Routine Immunization
Region on track to be declared Polio-free by 2014
Leprosy still endemic in remote areas
Region expected to reach LF elimination target by 2020
• Disease surveillance systems further strengthened
• WHO support enhanced for training and development of standard surveillance procedures
WHO supporting countries to enhance capacity to implement IHR
National plans are in place for Influenza Pandemic preparedness and response
WHO is supporting country alert and response capacity for emerging infectious diseases
MDR TB on the increase
HIV prevalence decreased among female sex workers
Two of the three HIV-infected pregnant women did not benefit from antiretroviral treatment
Artemisinin resistant malaria in Thailand and Myanmar a cause for concern
NCDs responsible for over half of all deaths
Countries focusing on Tobacco control
• Maternal mortality ratio reduced by 66%
• Nepal received special award from UNSG for reducing MMR
• Reduction in U5 mortality rate by two-thirds by 2015
• Bangladesh received special award from UNSG
WHO working with other agencies to improve family planning services
Countries supported to develop multisectoral strategies to promote active and healthy ageing
Member States faced many natural and man-made emergencies
Framework for community resilience during emergencies developed
Increased attention on social and economic determinants of health
• Thailand initiated the Social Inequity Reduction Network
• Sri Lanka launched the Lighthouse Project
Efforts to reduce gender-based violence supported
• Healthy environments promoted through healthy settings approach
• Region has achieved MDG target with 90% safe drinking water coverage
Focus on under-nutrition, diet and chronic diseases, micronutrient deficiencies, infant and child nutrition
Countries devoting efforts to emerging food safety issues
Countries supported to review and revamp health workforce
Most countries established national mechanisms for health research and established ethics review boards.
Several countries revised their national drug policies and updated their Essential Medicines lists.
WHO committed to strengthen technical capacity of Member States to face evolving challenges