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HAIAP News Bulletin, 1 June 2023

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1. News from HAIAP

1.1 HAIAP Forum 'Health Action for All - the way forward' May 27-29 in Penang

In collaboration with long time partners at the Universiti Sains Malaysia, and International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM) and Third World Network (TWN) there was an extremely exciting and inspiring program - in the last week of May. We were able to include pre-recorded remote colleagues so their stories were not missed.

Long time partners have continued to expand their activities and they shared their challenges and achievements.

It will be wonderful to share the outcomes and to inspire newcomers.

The videos can be accessed via the links below: (Thank you Yap Beow Keat)

- Day 1 - <https://fb.watch/kTNzFmwikH/>
- Day 2 (Morning) - <https://fb.watch/kTNJ0gcXRV/>
- Day 2 (Afternoon) - <https://fb.watch/kTNLabPOIB/>

There will be a full comprehensive narrative record of the proceedings but that will take time. We will share the outcomes and plans ASAP.

Meanwhile, here also is a link to the conference brochure. Do take a look at it

https://www.haiasiapacific.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/HAIAP_Penang_ConferenceBrochure-1.pdf



On the third day - May 29 - our 42nd HAIAP birthday - with a group of about 40 people - we planned the future of HAIAP.



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2. Information sharing

2.1 World tobacco day in Malaysia

KACA MATAKU: Nicotine Abuse Casts Dark Clouds Over World No Tobacco Day 2023

Please read the whole article here

<https://www.bacalahmalaysia.my/kaca-mataku-nicotine-abuse-casts-dark-clouds-over-world-no-tobacco-day-2023/>



Tan Sri Dzulkifli Abdul Razak says

Speaking of nicotine addiction, Malaysia has another good reason to highlight on WNTD this year. Namely, to raise concern over widespread abuse of hazardous vape products, in areas like Tambun to as far as Ranau according to the findings of All Parties Parliamentary Group – Sustainable Double Goals most recently.

Hence, for a good 60 days, across the Hari Raya, Wesak and Gawai festivities, until 2023 WNTD Malaysians are being forced to accept a very toxic public ill-health policy, particularly targeted to youth under-18 years, when the free-for-all nicotine policy was deliberately created by the Health Minister; thus far, without any remorse, less still an explanation, if not apology.

This singularly makes the 2023 event the darkest moment in the history of WNTD where instead of instilling awareness to the general public about the harmful effects of tobacco and related products, Malaysians, especially school children are being enticed to abuse various forms of vape containing nicotine openly and unapologetically, doing just the contrast shamelessly in the eyes of the world.

The newly minted Health Minister, at the end of last year had rightly lent hope that the GEG Bill on smoking and tobacco products control was to be retabled in the first sitting of Parliament this year! Not only that was not met, a downright unprofessional decision to let loose nicotine came as a killer surprise.

2.2 Thailand New Initiative: Border Medicine

Immediately after returning from the Penang HAIAP Forum Dr Niyada Angsulee Kiatying was running a zoom meeting to prepare a 'border medicine' project initially in the south of Thailand on the Malaysia border involving the Provincial Health Offices who collaborate with Malaysian states. There are sections on health security, food and 'border medicine' that include investigation and control of medicines moving at the borders.

She is planning for a meeting on June 23 on site to discuss the specific issues around work between Thailand and Malaysia. Information will be prepared for an annual meeting of the group in August. The Thai group is planning a survey / situation analysis in seven provinces connected to Malaysia. One pharmacist in Niyada's team is already working in one of the seven provinces.

We look forward to hearing more of this important new dimension of health work.

2.3 AMR Dictionary

The AMR dictionary is available as physical copies, PDFs, and the website (www.amrdictionary.net). It aims to educate and inform the public about antimicrobial resistance. The AMR dictionary's contents, including its learning points and recommended video clips, are not intended to substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. If people become sick it is recommended to always see a local doctor or qualified healthcare provider.

Medical knowledge, research, and practices change constantly so the AMR dictionary will regularly update its PDFs and the website with the latest medical research and scientific findings relating to AMR. The AMR dictionary is not sponsored by any private or pharmaceutical organization and does not advertise any product. It is published as open access under a CC BY license (Creative Common Attribution 4.0).

The AMR dictionary already has Malaysia languages. Please look at the end of the book to find various versions of different languages. Anyone interested to translate further can make contact as explained at the end of the book for further information.

https://www.amrdictionary.net/contents/image/AMRdictionary_English.pdf

AMR dictionary



2.4 Kookkai catches a cold produced by the Thai Drug Watch group

<https://www.thaidrugwatch.org/download/books/kookkai-en.pdf>

Kookkai catches a cold is a little illustrated book in Thai and English that explains to families how to manage a cold.

