

Adopted by the 5th Ministerial Meeting of Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment

Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment
26th September 2024, Jakarta, Indonesia

Jakarta Declaration of Cooperation on Health and Environment

- 1) We, the Ministers of Health, Ministers of Environment, and Head of Delegations of the Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Health and Environment (APRFHE), having met at the Fifth Ministerial Meeting, hosted by the Government of Indonesia and supported by the joint secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Offices for South-East Asia and the Western Pacific, on 26th September 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia;
- 2) Recognizing the need to intensify implementation of health and environment related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular focus on SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land);
- 3) Emphasizing the need for a strong and coordinated response to the persisting and emerging environmental risks and to build resilient health systems and communities capable of mitigating, anticipating and withstanding future crises and pandemic;
- 4) Affirming the critical importance of the Paris Agreement and COP28 outcomes, and recognizing the necessity for regional support for their implementation; we also commit to advancing climate actions and strengthening health sector in building climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health systems and thriving communities for the benefit of present and future generations;
- 5) In light of the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), we reaffirm the importance of integrated strategies that ensure the well-being of all living beings and the sustainability of our planet's biodiversity such as implementing the One Health approach to address complex health and environmental challenges in a holistic manner;
- 6) Acknowledge and further promote the awareness of the significant impact of air pollution on health and the environment and the need for regional cooperation to supplement regional and international initiatives, and encouraging member countries to accelerate efforts on preventing and reducing air pollution to promote healthy air quality;

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Underlining that further actions at national, regional and global level are needed in order to accelerate cooperation on health and environment. In particular, we commit to:

- 7) Call on governments, the international development community, civil society organizations, the private sector and other key stakeholders, to enhance our collective efforts towards achieving tangible progress on realistic and measurable targets in the areas of health and environment which align with multilateral commitments;
- 8) Encouraging member countries to report on the progress of implementing APRFHE commitments which stated in APRFHE declarations according to their respective conditions and priorities to ensure sustainability of this regional forum;
- 9) Advocating for developing joint monitoring and project to ensure effective implementation of APRFHE initiatives and emphasizing the importance of information, knowledge exchange, and technology transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms adhering to ethical standards in international cooperation;
- 10) Encouraging to the following actions:
 - a) Promoting knowledge sharing and cooperation among countries on the design, implementation, update, and sustainability of National Environmental Health Actions Plans and their contribution to coordinated actions related to environment and health;
 - b) Addressing the impact of air pollution on health and promote improvement of air quality and reduction of health problem;
 - c) Encouraging WASH implementation of safe and climate resilient water and sanitation systems and services in healthcare facilities by focusing on capacity building, innovation, and developing dedicated funds;
 - d) Engaging stakeholders in addressing climate change impacts on health and environment by conducting research, exchanging knowledge, technology transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, conducting climate change vulnerability, risk and impact assessment to guide adaptation actions, strengthening disaster preparedness and response capacities and building the early warning and integrated surveillance mechanisms and promoting co-benefits of climate action through regional cooperation and initiatives;
 - e) Promoting technology transfer on voluntary and mutually agreed terms for environmentally sound chemical and waste management in accordance with the Global Framework on Chemicals and international conventions such as the Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention, and Minamata Convention and encourage research and development on the health impacts of chemicals and waste, taking into account national capacities and priorities;

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- f) Developing, adopting, building capacity and implementing regional Health Impact Assessment including Environmental Health Risk Assessment Protocols for sustainable and equitable development;
 - g) Further promoting the awareness and advocacy for One Health approach by emphasizing the interconnectedness of health sectors with environment, forestry, agriculture, and more, addressing gaps through regular assessment, and fostering collaboration and research guided by regional and global frameworks such as One Health Joint Plan for Action 2022-2026;
- 11) Requesting UNEP and WHO to assist member countries in accessing funding from International Financial Institutions to advance the development of health and environment initiatives;
- 12) Underlining the necessity of further action at national, regional, and global levels to accelerate cooperation on health and environment, collaborating with existing regional initiatives such as ASEAN Leaders Declaration on One Health Initiatives, Quadripartite One Health, to work collaboratively with the Regional Forum;
- 13) We express our sincere appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the 5th Ministerial Meeting and its dedication as Chair of APRFHE 2020 – 2024;
- 14) Welcoming the new chair of the Regional Forum, anticipating continued leadership and progress in our collective efforts;

This Jakarta Declaration signifies our renewed commitment to a collaborative, integrated approach to addressing health and environmental challenges in the Asia Pacific region, ensuring a healthier, more sustainable future for all.