



World Health Organization



## Regional Forum on Environment and Health



United Nations Environment Programme

Final Unedited

English Only

**Third Ministerial Regional Forum  
on Environment and Health  
in Southeast and East Asian Countries  
10 September 2013, Kuala Lumpur  
Malaysia**

### **KUALA LUMPUR DECLARATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH**

Considering the global framework for action provided by global landmark commitments such as Agenda 21 of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the 2000 Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations, the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the 2012 Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and ongoing discussions about the post-2015 development agenda;

Having met at the Third Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries, jointly organized by 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, and hosted by the Government of Malaysia, on 10 September 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia;

Recalling the First Ministerial Meeting of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries on 9 August 2007, in Bangkok, Thailand, and in the Second Ministerial Meeting of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian countries on 15 July 2010, in Jeju, Republic of Korea;

Understanding that the environment in which we live has both pathogenic and salutary effects on our health and that our common goal is the attainment of healthy lives through healthy environments and sustainable development;

Recognizing the need to achieve that goal by ensuring clean air, safe and adequate water, environmentally sound treatment and safe disposal of waste, safe management of chemical substances, adequate response and adaptation to climate change, efficient and effective actions in environmental health emergencies, and assessment of health impacts of these and other environmental hazards;

Conscious of the need to cooperate and to share good examples and technologies since global and

regional perspectives are essential to pursue international cooperation to strengthen national capacity for environmental health management;

Thankful to the Secretariat and the Chair and Vice-Chair for their untiring support to the Regional Forum;

We, the Ministers of Health and Ministers of Environment and heads of delegations from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam confirm our adoption of the Report on Governance, Impact and Achievements, Partnerships, and Sustained Financial Mechanisms of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health by the Chair and Vice-Chair and the Framework for Cooperation of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries;

Agree to cooperate to develop and implement national environmental health action plans (NEHAPs), or equivalent plans, that aim to put sustainable environment and health at the centre of development, result in sustainability and improvements in environmental quality, enhance public health, and ensure the health of the future generations in the region;

Agree to work for the development and implementation of mechanisms to enable more effective sharing of information between the health and environment sectors and other sectors through the Environmental Health Country Profiles (EHCP) and Environmental Health Data Sheets (EHDS);

Agree to study ways and means to create within the region an environmental health capacity-strengthening programme through research, training, and sharing technologies and other resources and leading examples;

Approve the establishment of a Scientific Panel and a Knowledge Network to foster cooperation with other regional mechanisms in their thematic areas and to facilitate technical cooperation among members of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries;

Resolve to strengthen our cooperation to improve inter-agency, multisectoral, bilateral, regional and international cooperation, coordination and planning through capacity-building, and also to improve the management of common and trans-boundary and cross-border issues;

Invite other countries in the region to join the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries for the common benefit of all and for the sake of learning from and assisting each other in creating a better environment to promote health for all;

Urge governments, the private sector, civil society, nongovernmental organizations, academia, occupational groups, youth and women groups, and media to be actively engaged in this process, further building ownership and commitment;

Urge all stakeholders, including development partners, to continue to provide technical and financial support for the work of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries and its functional bodies;

Request UNEP and WHO to continue to serve as the joint Secretariat to support the operations of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries and its subsidiary bodies;

Call anew upon international and regional development partners to support the implementation of the Framework for Cooperation of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries and specifically to support research and training on environment and health and the activities of the Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries;

Agree to meet again in three years to review progress in building capacity for environmental health management and in attaining identified goals and to discuss and agree on new directions and priorities for collaboration, including the need to address new and emerging environment and health priorities;

Thank the people and the Government of Malaysia for hosting and supporting the Third Ministerial Regional Forum on Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries and other related meetings.

*10 September 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*