

APEC SEMINAR ON TRADE IN HEALTH SERVICES

Cebu, Philippines
(February 9, 10 & 11, 2010)

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**APEC Seminar on Trade in Health Services
9-11 February 2010
Cebu, Philippines**

PROGRAM AGENDA

DATE and TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
February 9, 2010		
AM Sessions		
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Ceremonies	
9:30 – 10:00	Presentation 1 Brief Overview of GATS and Trade in Health Services	Ms. Catherina Timmermans <i>Regional Focal Point for Trade and Health World Health Organization</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee Break	
10:15 – 10:45	Presentation 2 Trade in Services in the Diagnostic Tool on Trade and Health: Relevance, Updates and Experiences in Implementation	Ms. Catherina Timmermans
10:45 – 11:15	Presentation 3 Lecture in Linkages Across Modes and Across Sectors (Complimentary Linkages, Substitute Linkages and Negative Linkages)	Prof. Amir Mahmood <i>Associate Professor/ Deputy Head of Faculty & Assistant Dean International Faculty of Business & Law The University of Newcastle Australia</i>
11:15 – 11:45	Q & A	
11:35	Lunch Break	
PM Sessions		
1:00 -1:30	Discussion 1 Advances, Risks, Barriers and Policy Challenges in Tele-Health	Prof. Amir Mahmood
1:30 – 1:45	Discussion 2 Experience on Clinical Research Development	Dr. Loke Wai Chiong <i>Health & Wellness Program Office, Ministry of Health Singapore</i>
1:45 – 2:00	Discussion 3 Medical Tourism, Health and Wellness	Mr. Ruy Y. Moreno <i>Director for Operations in the Private Sector National Competitiveness Council, Philippines</i>
2:00 – 2:30	Q & A	
2:30 – 3:00	Workshop 1: Barriers and Opportunities on Trade in Health Services	

DATE and TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
February 9, 2010 <i>...continued</i>		
PM Sessions		
3:00 – 3:15	Coffee Break	
3:15 – 4:00	Continuation of Workshop	
February 10, 2010		
AM Sessions		
8:00 – 8:15	Recap of Day 1	
8:15 – 8:45	Presentation of Outputs of Workshop 1	
8:45 – 9:15	Borderless Medical Travel in APEC Presentation 4 Insurance Portability and Trade Facilitation: Benefits, Barriers, Solutions and Agenda for APEC Cooperation (Experience of Developed Economies as Sending Countries)	Mr. Todd Nissen <i>Director for Services Trade Negotiations Office of the United States Trade Representative Washington DC, USA</i>
9:15 – 9:30	Discussion 4 Insurance Portability and Trade Facilitation: Benefits, Barriers, Solutions and Agenda for APEC Cooperation (Experience of Developing Economies as Receiving Countries)	Dr. Veerachat Petpisit <i>Deputy Marketing Director Bangkok Hospital Medical Center Thailand</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Discussion 5 Measuring Quality of Healthcare through Accreditation of Health Service Providers and Facilities	Dr. Shirley B. Domingo <i>Senior Vice-President for Health Financing Policy Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, Philippines</i>
9:45 – 10:00	Discussion 6 Impact of Trade in Health Services on Public Health and Policy Responses	Dr. Songphan Singkaew <i>Policy & Plan Analyst Bureau of Policy & Strategy Office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Public Health Thailand</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Q & A	
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30 – 10:45	Developments in Investment Climate Discussion 7 Experiences in Establishing Overseas Presence	Dr. Veerachat Petpisit
10:45 – 11:00	Discussion 8 Impact of Foreign Investments on Public Health	Mr. Theo Seiler <i>Chief Executive Officer Asian Hospital, Philippines</i>
11:00 – 11:15	Discussion 9 Experiences on Registration of Medical Tourism Economic Zones	Atty. Genesis Adarlo <i>Consultant for DOH & WHO Philippines</i>

DATE and TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
February 10, 2010 <i>...continued</i>		
AM Sessions		
11:15 – 11:30	Discussion 10 Trade in Health Services Statistics	Ms. Cynthia Lazo Director of Wellness and Health Department of Tourism, Philippines
11:30 - 11:45	Q & A	
11:45	Lunch Break	
PM Sessions		
12:45 – 1:15	Liberalization of Professional Practice: Recent Developments, Modalities and Impacts Presentation 5 Development of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) and Common Competency Standards	Ms. Kathlyn Fritsch <i>Regional Adviser in Nursing WHO Regional Office for Western Pacific (WPRO) P.O. Box 2932, UN Avenue 1000 Manila, Philippines</i>
1:15 – 1:30	Discussion 11 Philippine Experience on MRAs	Dr. Kenneth G. Ronquillo <i>Director IV Health Human Resource Development Bureau Department of Health Philippines</i>
1:30 – 1:45	Discussion 12 Cooperation Agreements to Address Equity Issues	Prof. Fely Marilyn E. Lorenzo <i>Professor College of Public Health University of the Philippines Manila</i>
1:45 – 2:00	Q & A	
2:00 – 3:00	Workshop 2: Identifying and Prioritizing Cooperation Projects on Trade in Health Services	
3:00	Health Facilities Visit: Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center Chong Hua Hospital	

DATE and TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKERS
February 11, 2010		
<i>AM Sessions</i>		
8:00 – 8:15	Recap of Day 2	
8:15 – 8:45	Presentation of Outputs of Workshop 2	
8:45 – 9:15	<i>Presentation 6</i> GATS and Trade in Health Services: The Progress So Far, Experiences at the Bilateral, Regional and Multilateral Level	Atty. Anthony Amunategui Abad <i>Trade Policy Expert Trade Related Technical Assistance Project (TRTA)-2 Philippines</i>
9:15 – 9:30	<i>Discussion 13:</i> Advances, Risks, Barriers and Policy Challenges in Medical Travel	Ms. Joyce Alumno <i>Consultant Department of Tourism, Philippines</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Q & A	
9:45 – 10:15	Presentation of Synthesis	
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break	
10:30 – 11:30	Endorsement of Proposals for Areas of Cooperation	
11:30 – 12:00 NN	Closing Ceremonies	
END OF PROGRAM		

Welcome Remarks

By:

HON. EDESEL T. CUSTODIO

*Undersecretary for International Economic Relations and
Philippine Senior APEC Official
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Good morning. I am very honored for this opportunity to welcome all participants to this APEC Seminar on Trade in Health Services.

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate the hard-working staff of the Bureau of International Health Cooperation of the Department of Health for making this project possible.

I would like to particularly welcome our participants from our APEC partner economies including Indonesia, Thailand, and Singapore who are co-sponsors of this project.

Let me also express my appreciation for the hospitality being extended by the people and government of the City of Mactan to welcome our guests from the APEC community.

In this three-day seminar, we will be discussing the various factors that facilitate or hinder the free flow of trade in health services.

Trade in services, in general, is considered as the new frontier of international trade. The global services sector has been a credible engine of growth and has demonstrated resiliency even during the onslaught of the global economic crisis that began in late 2008. Measurement of trade in services remains a challenge owing to the non-tangible nature of services. Health services trade is no exception but the rising number of medical tourists and the increasing demand for health professionals are clear indications of the strong growth potential of health services trade.

Health services trade cuts across all modes of supply under the GATS classification. Health-related services under Mode 1 is limited due to the nature of the service provided mainly through electronic means. Mode 3 or commercial presence remains limited in many economies in the region due to limitations in foreign equity. Much of the trade in health services focus on Modes 2 and 4 since health services require close contact between the consumer and the health service provider such as in medical

tourism, commercial presence of health service providers, or cross-border movement of health professionals.

Medical tourism is a high-repeat user business with the potential to attract high-income consumers. It works in tandem with the tourism industry through information provided to tourists on available medical amenities in popular tourist destinations. Medical tourism has the added benefit of encouraging health professionals to stay in the home country. The success of medical tourism depends on the existence of a comprehensive policy and regulatory framework that will adequately address the issues of insurance portability, regulation of foreign health professionals, consumer protection, and health data privacy.

Trade in health services under Mode 4 is a promising source growth for developing economies. It is similarly important to developed economies which are experiencing demographic changes resulting in increasing demand for health workers to provide care for the aging population. This mutually beneficial arrangement, however, has engendered new problems. Sending economies have to develop measures in order to cope with the negative consequences of labor migration in meeting domestic health requirements. Foreign workers are sometimes victim to exploitative recruitment and processing fees, unsuitable working conditions, and inferior compensation packages. Addressing such problems would require the cooperation of receiving economies to protect foreign workers and prevent unfair and abusive practices. Canada, for instance, has effectively addressed such concerns through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. Mutual recognition arrangements, however, is widely acknowledged as the best approach to maintain the quality of health education and protect the welfare of health professionals abroad.

I have only given you a snapshot of the range of issues that this seminar will address. The programme prepared for this seminar was designed to cover as comprehensively as possible all the relevant aspects of health services trade. I hope you will find the discussions very useful.

At this point, allow me to thank in advance all our invited resource speakers for sharing their valuable time and expertise with us. I encourage all participants to actively participate in the seminar. I hope that with better understanding of the issues, we would be guided in mapping out directions for our future work in this area. I am optimistic that APEC economies would continue to actively collaborate through the APEC Group on Services and the Health Working Group.

Again, welcome to all our participants. I wish you will all have an enjoyable stay in Cebu.

Mabuhay!

Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the Seminar on Trade in Health Services, 9-11 February 2010, Shangri-la Mactan, Cebu, Philippines

Welcome Remarks

By:

Dr. PAULYN JEAN ROSELL-UBIAL

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COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In behalf of our President, Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and our Health Secretary, Dr. Esperanza Cabral, with my co-members of the EXECOM, Assistant Secretary Nemesio T. Gako, Assistant Secretary Elmer Punzalan, BIHC headed by Director Maylene Beltran, Center for Health Development – Central Visayas, headed by Director Susana Madarieta and the entire Department of Health family especially CHD-7, the Philippines is very pleased to be the host of this Seminar and I warmly welcome all of you to this APEC Seminar on Trade in Health Services. I would also like to offer a special welcome to the delegates of APEC member economies who are participating in this Seminar. The success of the Seminar largely hinges on your active participation to the discussions and your commitment to the future action points that will be agreed later on.

I will not go through the main features of the Seminar in any detail, as you are about to hear them from some of the resource speakers and member economy representatives.

While our schedules within the next two and a half (2 ½) days will be full, we will strive to make each and every one of you feel the hospitality and friendliness which our people are known for. Together with the valuable inputs of the Seminar, we will aim to make you bring home memories of the beauty of this country and the richness of its culture and heritage.

MABUHAY! This is our greetings to welcome guests here in the Philippines. It means “be alive”, be happy, have fun, enjoy life, be alive.

Learning is more efficient – we absorb more if we enjoy and have fun in the processes. We come to better decisions and discussions in an atmosphere of congenial and “happy” disposition.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you and to ask all of you to help ensure the utmost benefit from this Seminar through sound discussions, open exchange of ideas, and positive commitment to enhancing future actions on trade in health services in the APEC region towards better health outcomes for all our people in this Region.

I wish you all a successful meeting and a pleasant stay in Cebu. Mabuhay!

Delivered during the Opening Ceremonies of the Seminar on Trade in Health Services, 9-11 February 2010, Shangri-la Mactan, Cebu, Philippines