



Strengthening human resource for health in South-East Asia: Time for action and commitment

Report of a regional meeting,
Thimphu, Bhutan, 19–21 November 2014



**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for South-East Asia

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Acronyms

AAAH	Asia–Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resource for Health
BHS	
BMHC	Bhutan Medical and Health Council
CD	communicable disease
CME	continuing medical education
CPD	continuous professional development
GDP	gross domestic product
GHWA	Global Health Workforce Alliance
GP	general practitioner
HPE	health Professional education
HRH	human resources for health
HW	health worker(s)
HWF	health workforce
ILO	Indian Labour Organization
IPE	interprofessional education
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency

MoH	Ministry of Health
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NCD	noncommunicable disease(s)
NTD	neglected tropical disease
RTA	road traffic accident
SEA	South-East Asia
SEAR	South-East Asia Region
SMPP	
SRH	sexual and reproductive health care
TPE	transforming professional education
UHC	universal health coverage
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive summary

With reference to the WHO South-East Asia Regional Committee Resolution SEA/RC67/R6 on Strengthening health workforce education and training in the Region, a regional meeting on strengthening human resource for health in South-East Asia: Time for action and commitment was held on 19–21 November 2014 at Thimphu, Bhutan. The general objective of the meeting was to create a common vision and build inspiration among Member States, WHO and other partners on time for action and commitment to strengthen health workforce in South-East Asia. The specific objectives included assessing gaps in policy and implementation of rural retention interventions and health education; and developing country action plans (2015–2016) by prioritizing WHO's 16 recommendations on rural retention policies and 11 recommendations on transforming professional education.

There were 80 participants, including senior government officials and academicians from the eleven member countries; representatives from network and partners: temporary advisers and WHO staff. In the opening

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