

Fourth Meeting of the South-East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG)

A Report
New Delhi, India, 2–3 April 2013



**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for South-East Asia

SEA-Immun-77
Distribution: General

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Printed in India

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Acronyms

AES	acute encephalitis syndrome
AFP	acute flaccid paralysis
AEFI	adverse events following immunization
AI	Appreciative Inquiry
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AVD	alternative vaccine delivery
bOPV	bivalent oral polio vaccine
CMYP	comprehensive multi-year plans
CRS	congenital rubella syndrome
cVDPV	circulating vaccine-derived polio virus
DoV	Decade of Vaccines
EPI	expanded programme on immunization
EVM	effective vaccine management
EVSM	effective vaccine store management
GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization
GIVS	Global Immunization Vision and Strategy
GMP	good manufacturing practices
GVAP	Global Vaccine Action Plan
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HPV	human papillomavirus
IMB	Independent Monitoring Board for Polio Eradication
IMCI	integrated management of childhood illness
IPV	inactivated polio virus
IRI	intensification of routine immunization
ITAG	Immunization Technical Advisory Group
ITSU	Immunization Technical Support Unit
LJEV	live japanese encephalitis vaccine

MCV	measles-containing vaccine
MCV1	first-dose measles vaccine
MNT	Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus
mOPV	monovalent oral polio vaccine
MR	measles and rubella vaccine
MRI	Measles Rubella Initiative
NCC	National Certification Committee
NCL	National Chemical Laboratory
NIDs	national immunization days
NRA	national regulatory assessments
NTAGI	National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization
NUVI	new and underutilized vaccine introduction
OPV	oral polio vaccine
PATH	Program for Appropriate Technology in Health
PMS	post-marketing surveillance
RI	routine immunization
RC	Regional Committee
RCCPE	Regional Commission for Certification for Polio Eradication
SIA	supplementary immunization activity
SEAR	South-East Asia Region
TCG	Technical Consultative Group
tOPV	trivalent oral polio vaccine
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VDPV	vaccine-derived polio virus
VDC	Village Development Committee
VMA	vaccine management assessment
VPD	vaccine-preventable diseases
WHO	World Health Organization
WPV	wild poliovirus

1. Introduction

The fourth meeting of the World Health Organization's South-East Asia Regional Immunization Technical Advisory Group (SEAR-ITAG) was held from 2–3 April 2013 in New Delhi, India.

The SEAR-ITAG is composed of technical experts who provide Member States with technical and policy guidance on immunization, vaccines and related technology to reduce vaccine-preventable diseases in the Region. The terms of reference are:

- (1) To review regional and Member States policies, strategies and plans for control, elimination and eradication of vaccine-preventable diseases, especially for polio eradication, measles control and maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) elimination, including the setting of regional immunization priorities;
- (2) To guide Member States in strengthening routine immunization programmes;
- (3) To make recommendations on a framework for national immunization policies as well as operational aspects of the immunization strategies; guide Member States on the incorporation of new scientific knowledge and technology on vaccines, vaccine delivery and immunization practices;

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