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Year 5, Issue 2



# AAAHA Newsletter

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## Highlights

-Dedicated Spirit the Charm and Charisma of HRH

-Our Silent Heroine  
P.D. Lalitha Padmini

## Dedicated Spirit the Charm and Charisma of HRH

Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAHA) organized a Parallel Session on Dedicated Spirit: the Charm and Charisma of HRH in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Forum on Human Resources for Health and Prince Mahidol Award Conference 2011 which took place in Bangkok, Thailand during January 25-29, 2011.



The goal of this session was to illustrate vivid examples of committed health workers who have long experiences in serving health services to the people in developing countries because ensuring people with access to skilled health workers with good quality of services is a daunting challenge, especially in rural areas and government health facilities.

In the session eight speakers are invited to share their life long



experience of working in a difficult area. Four speakers are from AAAHA members countries: Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and Thailand. While four other speakers are from countries in Africa: Kenya, Mali, Niger, and Uganda. The outcome of this session was to spread an inspiration among audiences by the commitment, spirit, intrinsic factors, and motivations driving



health personnel for long term dedicated works to improve health of population in urban and rural areas.

## Our Silent Heroine Story of P.D. Lalitha Padmini: A dedicated Spirit of Public Health Midwife from Sri Lanka



Pera Dorapage Lalitha Padmini  
Public Health Midwife  
Dimbulagala Medical Officer  
of Health Division  
Sri Lanka

Ms. P.D. Lalitha Padmini attended a one and a half years of extensive training in public health and midwifery and immediately served as a Public Health Midwife at the peak of Sri Lankan Civil War in 1998. She worked in a remote village named Medagama in the Dimbulagala Medical Officer of Health Division in the Polonnaruwa District of the North Central Province of Sri Lanka on July 1, 1998 and continues to serve the people in the problematic area for the last 13 years.



Shortly, Ms. Padmini realized the poverty, malnutrition, communicable diseases, abuse of alcohol, teenage pregnancies were some of the challenges facing her career. Despite all these difficulties Ms. Padmini was determined to improve the lives of those poor people. She won the hearts of these unfortunate people and they all rallied around her to improve their village. With the help of the volunteers in the

village she was able to improve the clinic facilities. She visited their homes regularly giving advice not only on health but how to cope with their other social problems.



Her outstanding performance is reflected in a better health outcome such as no teenage pregnancies, no child and maternal deaths as well as rapid improvement of malnutrition status. Ms. Padmini received a special recognition award issued by Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) in 2010. She was one of the nominees for a special recognition award in the 2nd Global Forum on HRH was held in Bangkok, Thailand during January 25-29, 2011. She was also a guest speaker of Parallel Session 13: Dedicated Spirit: The Charm and Charisma of HRH organized by AAAH. During the session, she mentioned *“there are many health workers like me, silently serving the communities throughout the world, without coming into the limelight. If one can recognize these silent heroes and give them opportunities, the whole world will become a better and healthy place to live”*



### HIGHLIGHT: Parallel Session 13: Dedicated Spirit: the Charm and Charismatic of HRH

All eight speakers in the Parallel Session 13: Dedicated Spirit: the Charm and Charismatic of HRH are from two regions, five from Asia and four from African regions, with a fair gender balance of 4 female and 5 male and mix of multi-disciplinary included four doctors, two midwives, one public health workers, one nursing officer and one district health officer.

## Welcoming Dr. Junhua Zhang as the new Chair of AAAH

Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Junhua Zhang, as the new Chair of AAAH who took over Dr. Suwit Wibulpolprasert after the 5th AAAH Annual Conference in Bali, Indonesia last year. Dr. Zhang is also holding an assistant director general at the Health Human Resources Development Center (HHRDC), the Ministry of Health. He is now responsible for four streams of work in the center: international cooperation division, HHRDC health talent training center in Beijing, HHRDC Talent Training Campus in Xijiang Uygur Autonomous Region and HHRDC Talent Training Campus in Hainan Province. Dr. Zhang earned Medical Degree from the University of Huazhong Science and Technology. He was awarded the Master of Public Health by the University of Philippines and the Doctor Degree of Philosophy by the Faculty of Medicine the University of Sydney.



**Dr. Junhua Zhang**

### **Updated AAAH Steering Committee**

**1.) Dr. Junhua Zhang (Chair)**

Director-General, Health Human Resources Development Center, Ministry of Health, China

**2.) Dr. Suwit Wibulpolprasert**

Senior Advisor on Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Thailand

**3.) Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury**

Associate Director, Rockefeller Foundation

**4.) Dr. Duangvadee Sungkhobol**

Temporary International Professional, Human Resources for Health, WHO SEARO

**5.) Dr. Kathleen Fritsch**

Regional Advisor in Nursing, WHO WPRO

**6.) Mrs. Nguyen Lan Huong**

Principal Expert of Manpower and Organization Development Ministry of Health, Vietnam

**7.) Dr. Toomas Palu**, Lead Health Specialist, The World Bank Cambodia Office

**8.) Dr. Sarath Samarge**, Deputy Director of Health Services, Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, Sri Lanka

**9.) Dr. Arjun Karki**, Vice Chancellor, Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Nepal

**10.) Dr. Tri Tarayati**, Head of Center for Health Human Resource Management, Ministry of Health, Indonesia

**11.) Prof. Marilyn E. Lorenzo**, Professor, College of Public Health, University of the Philippines

### **Updated AAAH Focal Points**

**1.) Bangladesh, Dr. Khaled Shamsul Islam**

**2.) Cambodia, Dr. Keat Phuong**

**3.) China, Mr. Ding Yang**

**4.) Fiji, Dr. Salanieta Saketa**

**5.) India, Dr. Shiv Chandra Mathur**

**6.) Indonesia, Dr. Tri Tarayati**

**7.) Lao PDR, Dr. Phouthone Vangkonevilay**

**8.) Myanmar, Dr. Nilar Tin**

**9.) Nepal, Dr. Arjun Karki**

**10.) Papua New Guinea, Mrs. Mary Roroi**

**11.) Philippines, Dr. Kenneth Ronquillo**

**12.) Samoa, Mrs. Sarah Faletoesu Su'a**

**13.) Sri Lanka, Dr. Sarath Samarage**

**14.) Thailand, Dr. Nonglak Pagaiya**

**15.) Vietnam, Mrs. Nguyen Lan Huong**

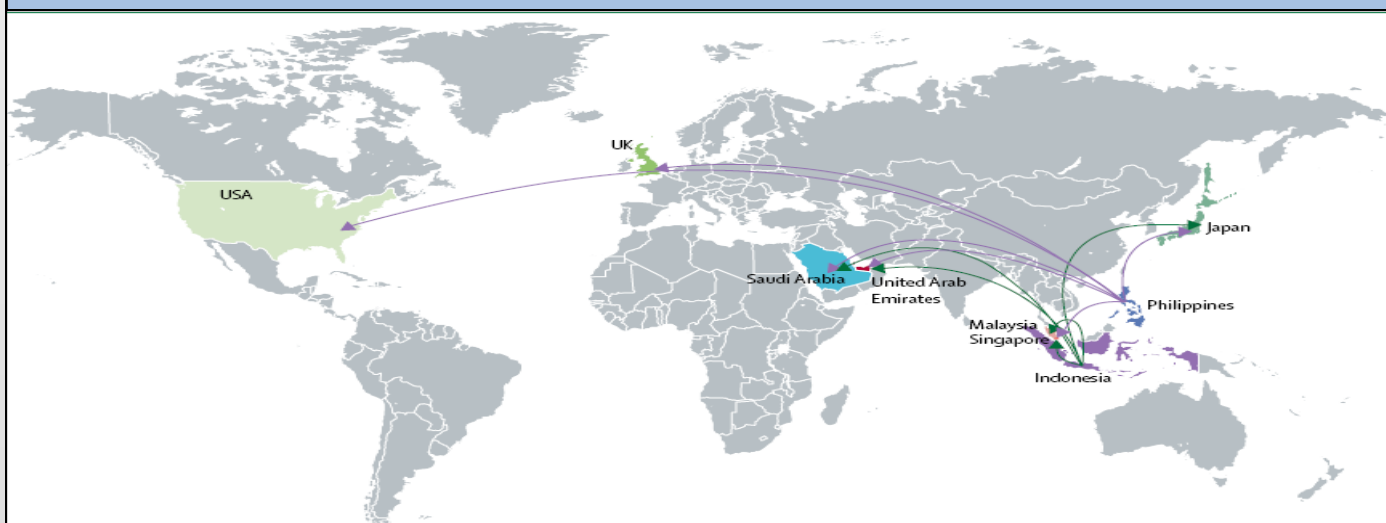
# WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel

## Historical background of WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel

May 2004	WHA 57.19 Resolution Requesting DG to develop a voluntary code
May 2006	Global Health Workforce Alliance established
May 2007	Migration Policy Advisory Council under Chairperson
March 2008	Kampala Forum, WHO EURO and Migration Policy Advisory Council
May 2008	WHO developed initial outline on the Code
January 2009	EB 124- First draft of code presented to EB
May 2009	Technical session on Code cancelled in WHA62 because of H1N1 pandemic
Aug-Oct 2009	Regional committee deliberations on Code
Oct-Nov 2009	WHO Secretariat produced second draft of code based on regional committee inputs
January 2010	EB 126 decided to forward second draft of code to WHA63 for deliberation
May 2010	Member States created drafting group to negotiate code
Mar-Apr 2011	WHO launched a web based public hearing on the draft guidelines

Source: Tangcharoensathien V, Patcharanarumol W, Sawaengdee K 2011; Global Health Diplomacy Executive Education Training Course, Beijing

On March 21 to April 17 2011 the World Health Organization (WHO) launched a web based public hearing on the draft guidelines for monitoring the implementation of the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel. WHO invited all persons concerned with the international recruitment of health personnel to contribute to this public hearing on the draft guidelines. After received the announcement, AAAH Secretariat immediately disseminated this call for contributions to the country members and networks. Fifteen country members of the Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAH) jointly contributed the comments of the draft guideline which already submitted to WHO.



Source: Kanchanachitra C. et al. Human Resources for Health in SE Asia: Shortages Distributional Challenges, and International Trade in Health Service, Lancet 2011

# Updated AAAH

## *AAAH Annual Conference 2011*

The 1st teleconference of the 6<sup>th</sup> AAAH Annual Conference Organizing Committee already took place on 5 April 2011. The entire of organizing committees actively participated in the teleconference. The committees agreed that the 6<sup>th</sup> AAAH Annual Conference will be held in Cebu City, Philippines during 9-11, 2011. However, the theme of the 6<sup>th</sup> AAAH Annual Conference still seeks a consensus from the organizing committee. AAAH Secretariat will keep you update on the theme and other information on AAAH Annual Conference 2011 in the next issue of the Newsletter!

## **New HRH Technical Articles**

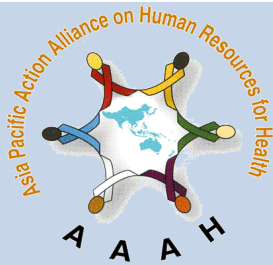
- ◆ Review of the health leadership and management capacity in Timor Leste
- ◆ A technical framework for costing health workforce retention schemes in remote and rural areas
- ◆ Towards a comprehensive approach to enhancing the performance of health workers in maternal, neonatal and reproductive health at community level
- ◆ Improving the quality of HRH Information
- ◆ Migration of Health Workers in the Asia Pacific Region
- ◆ Handbook on Monitoring and Evaluation of Human Resources for Health
- ◆ Recent trends in human resources for health at the district level in Indonesia
- ◆ Rapid Assessment of the effect of the economic crisis on health spending in Mongolia
- ◆ Glimpses of innovations in primary health care in South-East Asia
- ◆ The world health report - Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage
- ◆ Exploring health workforce inequalities - Case studies from three countries
- ◆ The health workforce crisis in Bangladesh: shortage, inappropriate skill-mix and inequitable distribution
- ◆ Reflections on the ethics of recruiting foreign-trained human resources for health



More information about these recently released or published technical documents are available on the AAAH Website

<http://www.aaahrh.org/articles.php>

Please do not hesitate to contact AAAH Secretariat ([secretariat@aaahrh.org](mailto:secretariat@aaahrh.org)) if you require further assistance

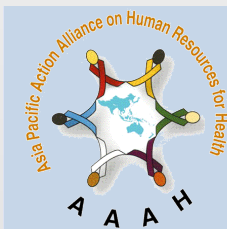


*“Strengthened HRH planning and management capacity toward adequate, equitable, efficient and effective HRH and health systems for health equity and quality improvement in the Asia-Pacific region”*

### **Greetings from AAAH Secretariat!**

*In this second issue of the 5th Year AAAH Newsletter, we proudly present the topic of **Dedicated Spirit: the Charm and Charisma of HRH** one of a parallel session of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Forum for Human Resources for Health organized by Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health (AAAHRH). Next, we highlight a story of P.D. Lalitha Padmini, a dedicated Public Health Midwife from Sri Lanka. We also reported the current situation of AAAH Annual conference and updated new HRH Technical articles.*

*Thank you very much for your support. Your feedback to the newsletter is welcomed and will help us make it better. If you have any information to share through this newsletter, please let us know at [secretariat@aaahrh.org](mailto:secretariat@aaahrh.org).*



### **AAAHRH Secretariat Team**

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