

The 3rd National Forum MeTA Philippines will offer participants a unique opportunity to gain insights into the complex systems that determine access to medicines and reignite their energy for change by discussing potential solutions on how to improve access with a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

The specific objectives of the forum are: (1) To review the progress of the MeTA Philippines in 2009 ; (2) To share and discuss new evidence, experiences generated with regard to medicines access issues; (3) To examine the MeTA process (the multi-stakeholder collaboration) and consider how MeTA Philippines can best contribute to policy process and interventions aiming at improving access to medicines.



What is MeTA?

The Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) is an alliance of governments, industries, global and national civil society organizations and international partners working together to improve access to medicines by increasing transparency and accountability in the healthcare marketplace. With the initial funding from UK Department for International Development (DFID) and active participation from the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Bank (WB), stakeholders from public, private, and non-profit sectors are meeting regularly to find ways to make medicines more accessible to the poor by focusing on strengthening the capacity to collect, analyse, disseminate and use data on medicine quality, availability, pricing and promotion. By doing so, the country driven approach of multi-stakeholder participation will help improve transparency and accountability around the way of essential medicines and health commodities in developing countries are selected, regulated, procured, distributed, supplied and then sold to and used by patients.

The Medicine Transparency Alliance (MeTA) was launched in 2007 in the Philippines with the aim to improve access to essential medicines through the principles of transparency and accountability. Specifically, MeTA Philippines was set up to provide (1) a venue for a multi stakeholder collaboration and process for examining pharmaceutical policies and reforms, (2) up-to-date information for evidence-based pharmaceutical and health policy decision making, (3) support for systems and structures to allow data disclosure that can lead to increased transparency and accountability by all stakeholders.

Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) Philippines
Graduate School of Health Sciences,
Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila
Gen Luna cor. Muralla St., Intramuros, Manila
<http://www.metaphilippines.org.ph/>

For information, please contact:
Jing Punla: jingsubido@yahoo.com (Mobile: +639175385267)
Aiza Datu-dacula: aiza_j_datudacula@yahoo.com (Mobile: +639175265583)

3rd MeTA Philippines FORUM



26-27 January 2010
Diamond Hotel
Manila Philippines



MEDICINES TRANSPARENCY:
a basic human rights issue.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Day 1. Morning Plenary Session - 26 January, 2010

Session 1.: Access to essential medicines – Progress of MeTA Philippines

Chairperson: **Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan**, Vice Chair-MeTA

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:15	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Anthem Welcome remarks 	Alberto Romualdez Chairman, MeTA Council
9:15 – 9:35	Keynote Address	Esperanza Cabral Secretary of Health
9:35 – 9:50	MeTA Pilot Phase – Updates from MeTA International Secretariat	Wilbert Bannenberg, MeTA International
9:50 – 10:10	Improving medicine quality -The benefits of joining the PIC Scheme for the Philippines	Robert Tribe Pharmaceutical Inspection Cooperative Scheme
10:10 -10:30	Access to essential medicines -a human right	Soe Nyunt-U, WHO Representative to RP
10:30 – 11:00	Annual progress report of MeTA Philippines	Erwin Abueva, MeTA Program Coordinator
11:00 – 11:30	Results of data disclosure survey	Suzette Lazo, MeTA Philippines
11:30 – 12:00	Plenary discussion	
12:00 – 13:30	Photo Session & Lunch break	

Day 1. Afternoon Parallel Sessions, 26 January, 2010

Parallel Session 2A: Availability and procurement of essential medicines in the public sector

Chairperson: **Undersecretary David Lozada of DOH**

Time	Topic	Speaker
13:30 – 14:00	Availability of essential medicines in the public sector (WHO Health Facility & Household Surveys)	Dennis Batangan PMHSMPC
14:00 – 14:30	Procurement prices of selected essential medicines in the public sector (WHO/HAI survey)	Douglas Ball, Health Action International
14:30 – 14:45	Medicine Procurement and Delivery Monitoring in the public sector	Edward Gacusana Coalition Against Corruption
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break	
15:00 – 16:30	Open Forum discussion - Key questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What can be done to improve efficiency of public sector procurement at LGU and central DOH level? What are the main barriers to reducing corruption in medicine procurement and how can these be overcome? Can public-private sector collaboration contribute to improved availability of essential medicines in public health facilities? How? What can be the role of the MeTA process in this? 	Facilitator: Jarvis Punzalan of Capiz Provincial health office Rapporteur: Juan Alfonso Leonardia, EU Provincial Coordinator

Day 1. Afternoon Parallel Sessions, 26 January, 2010

Parallel Session 2B: Accessibility and financing of essential medicines for the poor

Chairperson: **Carlo Panelo, HPDP – USAID – UP School of Economics**

Time	Topic	Speaker
13:30 – 14:00	Contribution of Botika ng Barangays to improved access to essential medicines	Pablo Alcocer Vera, (ECTA)
14:00 – 14:20	Experiences with Peso100 project to improve availability and rational use of selected essential medicines	Normando Legaspi PHO, Oriental Mindoro
14:20 – 14:45	PhilHealth vision, strategies and potential options for health care financing reforms to provide better benefit coverage for essential medicines	Shirley Domingo, PHIC
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee Break	
15:00 – 16:30	Group discussion - Key questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How can BngBs operations be improved for better performance and sustainability? Can P100 project be expanded and sustained on the long term? What additional reforms are needed to improve financing of medicines for better access for the poor? What can be the role of the MeTA process in this? 	Facilitator: Francisco Tranquillino, PHAP Rapporteur 2: Eduardo Banzon, World Bank

Day 1. Afternoon Plenary Session - 26 January, 2010

Session 3.: Good Governance in Medicine Award of MeTA Philippines/WHO

Chairperson: Alberto Romualdez, Chair-MeTA Council

Time	Topic	Speaker
16:30 – 17:00	Feedback from Parallel Sessions 2A and 2B 10 min./presentation	Rapporteur 1 Juan Alfonso Leonardia Rapporteur 2 Eduardo Banzon
17:00 – 18:00	The Good Governance in Medicines Award – Rationale for this activity– Budiono Santoso <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanics for this award Nitz Valdez Results of award? Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan Short Q and A session Press/photo ops – DOH health beat 	GGM Award Committee Assisted by: Soe Nyunt-U Nitz Valdez Gov. Roberto Pagdanganan

GGM Awards & dinner

6:00 PM

Day 2. Morning Parallel Sessions, 27 January, 2010

Parallel Session 4A: Prices and access to medicines in the private sector

Chairperson: **Asst. Secretary Pauline Ubial of DOH**

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30 – 9:00	Patient experiences with availability and affordability of medicines after introduction of Maximum Drug Retail Price (MDRP), Government amd Mandated Price (GMAP)	Delen Dela Paz, HAIN James Auste, CWF
9:00 – 9:30	Implementation of RA9502 – Where are we?	Undersecretary Alexander Padilla, DOH
9:45 – 10:00	Impact of MDRP price controls on the Philippine Pharmaceutical Industry	Jose Maria Ochave Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry (PCPI)
10:00 – 10:15	Impact of price controls on PhilHealth reimbursement expenditures on medicines	Rey Aquino PHIC
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee break	
10:30 – 11:30	Group discussion - Key questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are the potential policy options to improve affordability of medicines in private sector? What are the options to reduce excessive out-of-pocket payments via insurance coverage or other social protection mechanisms? Can increased price transparency contribute to reduction of medicine prices? How implementation of RA9502 can be strengthened to achieve its goal of increasing access to affordable, quality medicines? What can be the role of the MeTA process in this? 	Facilitator: Robert Louis So, DOH Rapporteur 3: Normita Leyesa, Phil. Pharmaceutical Association

PRESS CONFERENCE

11:30-12:00

12:00 – 14:00

Lunch break

Day 2. Morning Parallel Sessions, 27 January, 2010

Parallel Session 4B: Quality of medicines and quality of care

Chairperson: **Director Maylene Beltran of DOH**

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30 – 8:50	Problems of counterfeit and sub-standard medicines in the Philippines	Nemia Getes, FDA
8:50 – 9:15	The Medicine Surveillance Project - <i>Empowering consumers for reporting medicine problems</i>	Nazarita Tacandong, FDA
9:15 – 9:40	Transparency in selection of essential medicines for PNDF – use of evidence-based methods	Nelia C. Maramba, National Formulary Committee, DOH
9:40 – 10:00	PCP Innovations: Weaning from Pharma Sponsorships	Jaime Montoya Philippine College of Physicians
10:00 – 10:15	Self-regulation for ethical medicine promotion - Impact on daily practices of companies	Reiner Gloor PHAP
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee Break	

Day 2. Afternoon Plenary Session, 27 January, 2010

Session 4: Access to medicines and the MeTA Process

Chairperson: **Anja Bauer, EC**

Time	Topic	Speaker
14:00 – 14:30	Plenary Feed-back from Parallel Session 3A & 3B. 15min. for each feed-back	Rapporteur 1 Normita Leyesa Rapporteur 2 Teresa Dioko
14:30 – 14:50	Quality issues – Enforcement of GMP standards on resource poor settings	Jacqueline Idusso MeTA Uganda
14:50 – 15:15	The MeTA Process – Engagement of civil society in MeTA – Progress report from CHAT	Cecile Sison Coalition for Health Advocacy and Transparency (CHAT)
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee Break	
15:30 – 16:00	Bioequivalence – is this the gold standard for the Philippines?	Rita Grace Alvero DLSU
16:00 – 16:45	Open Forum Discussion: what are the important lessons learned with quality assurance implementation and what can transparent process hope to achieve? What happens if there is information about poor quality products? Is there a mechanism to report?	Facilitator: Catherine Dauphin, WHO
16:45 – 17:00	MeTA Philippines in 2010 (plans, activities, desired outcomes, evaluations)	Erwin Abueva Secretariat Meta Phil.
17:00 – 17:10	Synthesis of recommendations made by the 3 rd National MeTA Forum	Madeline Valera, MeTA Council
17:10 – 17:15	Announcement: MeTA council elections for 2010-2011	Alberto Romualdez Chairman, MeTA Council
	Closing Remarks	