

## **Minutes of the Task Force meeting**

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2009

Venue: Director's Chamber

### **Participants**

1. Mr. Rinchen Dorji, Offtg Director, DoPH
2. Dr. Pandup Tshering, Med Supdt. JDWNRH
3. Dr. Gosar Pemba, JDWNRH
4. Mr. Sonam Dorji, CPO, PPD
5. Mr. Tandin Dorji, CPO, CDD, DoPH
6. Mr. Sonam Zangpo, DoPH
7. Ms. Roma Karki, DoPH

### **Recommendation**

1. India Embassy has proposed screening of Bhutanese travelling to India. The Task Force felt it is not feasible. Health can just advise them on how to protect themselves
2. Screening at Phuntsholing- The mechanism for screening foreigners traveling from Bagduara should be worked out at the district level once the broad guideline is given.
3. All ministries should be informed on the screening criteria and support required from other relevant agencies for screening
4. Suggested to form one Advocacy Team at the central level who can go to high risk districts and advocate on Influenza A, assess the districts' preparedness in preventing and controlling the disease and advice on the measures to be taken
5. Prepare budget estimate for all districts to conduct meetings with other sectors, conduct advocacy activities to the public and sensitization to health workers on Inf A
6. District should reinforcement AI preparedness activities which can be used for influenza A as well
7. Health officials / HWs at the southern districts and Paro should not be released for any kind of workshop or training owing to the ongoing preventive activities in preventing Influenza A (H1N1) infection. Similarly, officials involved on Influenza A activities at the central level also should not be released.
8. Screening of VIPs for Influenza A at the Paro Airport should be discussed in PCRMM meeting
9. Anything to be given to Paro airport should be sent to the Station Manager
10. Additional health worker at the airport for screening is recommended
11. Letter to be sent to Paro Airport for announcement in the aircraft on screening of passenger for Influenza A. Similarly posters on passenger screening to be developed and distributed to Bangkok, Kolkata and Kathmandu airports
12. For transporting a suspected passenger from airport to hospital, ambulance of Civil Aviation should be used. Therefore, Ministry of Health should communicate with Civil Aviation for its arrangement.

13. Messages on Influenza A should be given to print media who has more coverage as well as cost effective
14. Two thermometers (thermal scanner) to be distributed to each southern border districts