

## **BANGKOK DECLARATION**

### **on**

### **The Workshop on Research, Development and Regulations of Herbal Medicines in Bangkok, Thailand, 24-25 July 2014**

The workshop was attended by the resource persons from India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, I. R. Iran, and Thailand.

**WHILE EXPRESSING** gratitude to the Royal Thai Government, the IORA Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT), Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR) for organizing the workshop on Research, Development and Regulations of Herbal Medicines in Bangkok, Thailand, 24-25 July 2014, the participants:

**RE-AFFIRMED** the importance of continued cooperation on applied research and development and regulation of traditional medicine and herbal products including business matching in the IORA region;

**AGREED** that the workshop had been a resounding success, focusing on research, development and regulations of each member country. These would help the IORA member states and other developing countries in formulating their plans to ensure continued cooperation for applied research and development and regulation of traditional medicine and herbal products including business matching in the IORA region;

The participants also shared each country situation concerning regulations during the Workshop on Research, Development and Regulations of Herbal Medicines in Bangkok, Thailand, 24-25 July 2014. The information can be summarized as follows:

- I. India: Dr. Ajit Kumar Shasany, CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, presented the topic on Medicinal Plants Research in India. Medicinal plants in India have been collected from forest in high amount. However, climate change and other factors caused some species endangered. Standardization and quality control together with research and development are important for domestic herbal industries. Dr. Meenakshi Negi indicated that the key issues in India had been on cultivation, quality, regulations-harmonization, trade, IPR and livelihood linkages. The issues in standardization of herbal products at commercial scale, new approach to collaboration among IORA state members in developing new herbal products, technology transfer or R&D commercialization, and setting up of an organization for economic development were suggested.
- II. Indonesia: Dr. Bambang Marwoto, Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology (BPPT) presented the topic on Research and Development of Herbal Medicines in Indonesia. Herbal medicine dosage forms of Indonesia could be divided into three types such as Jamu, standardized herbal medicines and phytopharmaca.

Indonesia also needed the setting up of regulations for product quality improvement and increasing industrial competitiveness. Dr. Agung Eru Wibowo (BPPT) presented the topic on Development of Standardized Extract and Herbal Medicines Formula. Research and development was focused on standardized extracts and herbal medicine formula for metabolic disorders and degenerative diseases. The development of herbal medicine is one of the priority programs in BPPT, including standardized extracts, standardized herbal medicine formula and formulation of dosage forms.

- III. Sri Lanka: Dr. T.D.C.M.K. Wijayasiriwardena, Industrial Technology Institute (ITI) is the successor to the Ceylon Institute of Scientific & Industrial Research (CISIR), Sri Lanka, presented that the traditional Medical System (TMS) in Sri Lanka is supported by the Government and Government institutes. ITI is responsible for conducting National level research projects having impact on TM and also Herbal based product development, Value Addition and Technology Transfer, consultation to industries etc. Department of Ayurveda for registering herbal pharmaceutical industries in the country and also their products. So far, Sri Lanka has been collaborated with India, Pakistan, USA and Canada for its research and development concerning medicinal plant research.
- IV. Thailand: Dr. Ruchira Wangteeraprasert, Food and Drug Administration, Public Health Ministry, presented about the herbal products background in Thailand and introduced the role of Food and Drug Administration on herbal medicines. Currently, Thai laws and regulations focused on registration process in documents, microbial contamination limit, toxic elements, quality, and safety efficacy parts. Mr. Watcharapong Pongboriboon, President of Herbal Products Association (Thai entrepreneur) discussed the registration steps comprising permission to produce, contamination analysis and registration for traditional medicine products, which had a problem in a time consuming process, limit of indications, and difficulties to meet the FDA standards. Mrs. Sirinan Thubthimthed, Thai focal point, mentioned globally high demand in nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals and functional food, thus resulting in the need of R&D on quality, efficacy and safety.
- V. Iran: Dr. Majid Javanmard, Director of Commercialization Office, Iranian Research Organization for Science & Technology presented the topic on Herbal Medicine in IRAN. Iran is one of the seven Asian countries that have the most medicinal plants and the use of herbal and traditional medicine is a growing trend in the past three decades. There are about 200 herbal drugs legally sold in pharmacies and plants derivative drugs are about 3 percent of drugs. The government institutes has supported in the cultivation, production to processing and packing plants, research and pharmaceutical production, consumption and export of medicinal plants as well as spin off companies from academic staff and universities.
- VI. Vietnam: Current Situation of Medicinal Plant Development. Vietnam has a tradition of cultivating, harvesting and use of medicinal herbs. The herbal traditional products are becoming increasingly popular and have strong market growth during the last decade.

There are about 50 hospitals of traditional medicine. The Vietnamese government had an action plan to develop Vietnam Traditional Medicine until 2020 which focus on research and technological modernization of processing, production of medicines derived from medicinal plants, planning, construction of farming and processing areas. (Dr. TRAN MINH NGOC, Head of Formulation and Processing department, National Institute of Medicinal Materials)

- VII. Tanzania: The Ministry of Health of Zanzibar recognized and advocated for the use of traditional medicine and supported the idea of incorporating it into the national health system with the objective to ensure that traditional medicine treatment would be performed scientifically, rationally and with safety to the Zanzibar's Community.( Ms. Mayassa S. Ally, Chairman of Traditional and Alternative Medicine Council Site, Ministry of Health, Zanzibar)
- VIII. TISTR initiated a signage of the Memorandum of Understanding between TISTR and Iranian private sectors under Herbal Medicine Association for development of a research program in herbal products.
- IX. Herbal Products Association of Thailand initiated a proposal to start collaboration with Iranian private sectors to work on developing and transferring production technologies of herbal medicine and any other herbal processing products.

**THUS RESOLVED AND ADOPTED IN BANGKOK, THAILAND ON July 24, 2014.**