

Sound Hearing 2030 Report 2011

1. **Expert Meeting on Guiding Principles for Infant Hearing Screening (IHS), Kathmandu Nepal, 25th-26th March 2011:** An expert committee meeting was held to discuss the results of the field testing of the Guidelines regarding Infant Hearing screening that were developed in 2009. The meeting was attended by 15 experts from 7 countries. Based on these results the final Guidelines for Infant Hearing Screening along-with the detailed Sample Screening protocol have been developed.
2. **Promoting partnerships of SH and NC with National and International NGOs/DPOs/Training Institutes, Disability Networks:**
 - a. **Organization and participation in the National Convention for the Teachers of the Deaf, held in New Delhi** on 10th-12th February 2011. Presentations included:
 - i. Today's Scenario of Deafness: Dr. Arun K. Agarwal
 - ii. Sound Hearing 2030: Preventing Hearing Loss: Dr. Shelly Chadha
 - iii. Sound Hearing 2030: Role of IEC in prevention of hearing loss: Dr. Suneela Garg
 - b. Participation in **the 2nd Annual Conference of the 'Global Coalition for Hearing Health,' held in Los Angeles** in September 2011. Sound Hearing was represented by Dr. Shelly Chadha and Dr. Suneela Garg, who attended the meeting. Dr. Shelly Chadha delivered the key-note address at the conference as well as a talk on Sound Hearing 2030: the concept and programmes. Dr. Suneela Garg spoke on 'Integration of ear & Hearing care with Eye care programmes.'
 - c. Dr. Bulantrisna had discussions with the director and staff of **Asean Foundation in Jakarta** (Director: Dr. Wibisono Makarin) on 22nd June 2012, regarding the possibility of alliance in a : "Asean less Noise Cities Program". A proposal has to be sent early 2012 for a first three country expert meeting in Jakarta, to be held in 2012, to discuss the need and develop plans for this program.
 - d. Participation in the **2nd Asia-Pacific CBR Congress held in Manila, Philippines on 29th November to 1st December**. The conference was attended by Dr. Shelly Chadha and Dr. Bulantrisna Djenlantik. Dr. Shelly Chadha presented a paper titled 'Sound Hearing 2030: A community based approach to 'Healthy Ear & hearing Care'.
 - e. **Infant Hearing screening launch Manila, on December 1st 2011**, on invitation of Better Hearing Inc Philippines (Dr. Martinez). The launch was organized by the Philippine Academy of Neurotology, Otology and Related Sciences (chaired by Dr. Charlotte M Chiong). Dr. Bulantrisna presented an introduction on Sound Hearing 2030 and the Sound Hearing Guiding Principles on Infant Hearing screening proposed by the expert meeting at Kathmandu in 2009 and 2011. Several aspects of newborn hearing screening were presented, including assuring quality control and presentation regarding the well baby plan insurance covering the screening. Dr. Bulantrisna also co-signed the launching document.
 - f. On December 3rd, Dr. Bulantrisna attended the free hearing aid donation program by Starkey Foundation from the US (lead by Bill Austin and his wife Tani Austin), at the St Thomas University. Amazingly, 1400 hearing aids were distributed within 3 days by the team, assisted by the Philippine audiologists. A football figure, Daniel Donovan, was present to put on the

hearing aids. Contacts were made and it is hoped that the Society for Sound Hearing and Starkey Foundation will follow up and hopefully start cooperation in the near future.

3. *Members of the Sound Hearing helped Adaptation of WHO Training manuals into training modules:* the modules have been developed through a consultative process. Four levels of training modules have been developed including those for:

- a. Community level workers, parents, teachers
- b. Health workers
- c. Primary level doctors
- d. Obstetricians & paediatricians.

They have been field tested on the relevant target population. Based on the feedback obtained, changes have been undertaken in the modules. They are now ready for wider circulation and to be uploaded on the website.

4. *Upgrading the accessible website:*A fully accessible website: www.soundhearing2030.org has been developed professionally. It is being updated from time to time with information regarding important events and reports uploaded. Training modules and awareness materials can be uploaded from the website.

5. *Drafting Country Strategy Papers on ear & hearing care through country workshops:* the process for the drafting of the paper was undertaken in Indonesia before the workshop. The key members of the team were identified and groundwork prepared, in collaboration with the National Committee in Indonesia, Ministry of Health, and WHO- Indonesia. The Sound Hearing supported Workshop was to distribute and discuss the Strategy Plan in more detail for all stakeholders from the provinces, and took place on the 26th of September in Bukittinggi, Sumatra, in conjunction with the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Indonesian ORL Society .

The attendance was around 60 people, consisting of: Society for Sound Hearing: Dr. Bulantrisna Djelantik, Dr. Arun Agarwal (New Delhi); CBM: Mr. Rainer Gietler, Manila; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education; Komnas PGPKT (National Committee of Prevention & Management of HI & Deafness); 12 Komda PGPKT or Local Committees of Prevention & Management of HI & Deafness from many provinces of Indonesia including Aceh, Kalimantan and Papua; Hearing International : Prof H hendarmin; Indonesian ORL-HNS Society (Perhati-KL); Study groups of Otology, Neurotology, Community Ear health; PT Kasoem (HA manufactory); Masyarakat Bebas Bising (Noise Free Community); BaliHears NGO; ENT Institutions and Hospitals.

The Program of the Workshop consisted of:

1. Opening Speech: 1) Chairperson of the Komnas PGPKT; 2) President of the Indonesian ORL-HNS Society; 3) President of the SSH
2. 6 lectures divided into 2 sessions
3. Group Discussion : 4 groups discussed how to develop POA of the Strategic Plan PGPKT to achieve the goals and Action Planning for 2011-2014, Nationally and locally in each Provinces followed by Plenary session
4. Presentation of each local committee (Komda PGPKT)
5. Exhibition of Banner of Activities from 10 Komdas PGPKT

6. Award of the 3 best banners judged by Prof. Arun Agarwal, Mr. Rainer Guetler (CBM), Prof. Hendarto Hendarmin (HI) and Prof. Bambang Hermani (Perhati-KL), won the prize of Sound Level Meter
 7. (West Java, East Java, Aceh).
 8. Conclusion of the Workshop
 9. Closing and Photo Session.
- 6. *Developing Alliances with WHO:*** Meetings have been held with the relevant officers within WHO SEAR Office in order to develop a formal relationship with WHO SEARO through the signing of an MOU/letter of Exchange. The draft letter has been prepared and submitted along with other relevant documents. The response from WHO SEARO is now awaited. Dr. Agarwal, President was also invited to the Annual executive meeting of WHO SEARO as an observer.
- 7. *Development of Guidelines regarding Inclusion of Hearing Impaired in Indonesia:*** These guidelines are being developed through a consultative effort of experts in the field of Inclusion, Education as well as subject experts, under the guidance of Dr. MNG Mani. A team of experts from several institutions in Jakarta, including 3 persons from the department of Education, two from the ORL society, one from a Deaf School, and one from a Deaf Teachers School, and COO of the SSH (Dr. Bulantrisna), conducted several meetings in Jakarta in August – September 2011, to discuss the translated document, and made alterations and adaptations. The final document was presented and distributed at the Strategy Plan Workshop in Bukittinggi on the 26th of September 2011.
- 8. *Pilot project for operational research in HI and Blindness program:*** A pilot project to develop a replicable model of integration of ear & hearing care services with existing eye care services is being developed. In 2010, this has been field tested at two 'Vision centers' in collaboration with the 'Shroff Charitable Eye Care Hospital' in India. The vision technicians at both the centers have undergone training in Ear & Hearing care services and are now carrying out screening, referral and awareness activities in the community. The project is still going on in 2011. In 2011, another pilot project in this regard has been initiated in Nepal, in collaboration with the Biratnagar Eye Hospital. The concerned personnel has received training in the field of ear & hearing care. Screening activities are now being carried out. Ear & hearing Screening is being carried out in conjunction with screening activities for Eye diseases and visual impairment. Linkages for referral have been developed.
- 9. *Registration as International entity:***
- a. The Registration in Hong Kong is coordinated by the COO through liaisoning with **Dr. Bradley McPherson**. The process of registration of the organization 'Society for Sound Hearing International limited' as an international Charity in HongKong has been completed with the kind services of **Mr. Alfred Hau and Ms. Karen Tam** of the Hau, Lau, Li & Yeung Solicitors and Notaries. The process of Tax exemption is in process, and involves some more discussions and clarifications regarding the "objects" mentioned in the Memorandum of the Association. The bank account has been opened at HSBC Hong Kong, and reported to CBM SARO (N) liaison, Mr. Vikas Katoch. Dr. Bradley McPherson has kindly agreed to bear the task as Joint Treasurer, for transfers and recording of funds of the HSBC international account.

- b. The Hau, Lau, Li and Yeung solicitors and notaries has agreed to give professional services for maintaining the organization as 1) acting as Company Secretary, and 2) providing Registered Office. For the latter, the annual fee is waived and the remaining annual fee as well as registration fees has been paid. This is a great relief, since secretarial work in legal aspects of the organization has to abide the Hong Kong rules and procedures.
- c. Some charity activities have to be distributed to be done in Hong Kong. A plan and budget within the 2012 agreed budget has been decided on, including awareness material distribution, training materials for health workers.
- d. For practical reasons, the Directorship of the Society for Sound Hearing International is 4 persons, Dr. Bradley McPherson, Dr. Madan Upadhyay, Dr. A. Joarder and Dr. Bulantrisa Djelantik, with Secretary Dr. Shelly Chadha and Treasurer Dr. Suneela Garg. In the month of May, an online Directors meeting will ammend the directorship to be exactly the same as the actual SSH EC.
- e. *It is decided that from now on the organization will be called **"The Society for Sound Hearing International"**, registered in India as well as in Hong Kong, that has its main Secretarial Office in New Delhi, and an adjunct Treasurers Office in Hong Kong.*
- f. The New Delhi Office will work on changing the organization's name to the new name with the authorities soon.

10. Other Activities: Other activities undertaken by the Society for Sound Hearing include: Undertaking field testing of the Infant Hearing Screening Guidelines with support from WHO India office. Literature review on Neonatal & Infant hearing screening: the need, causes, techniques, programmes. A company in Australia, **Level Seven**, that produces sport T-shirts, has approached COO for possibility of supporting funds for free hearing aids for underprivileged children in Asia. The Sound Hearing 2030 initiative will be mentioned in their company branding materials. Although small, it is a first step for our fundraising efforts. Procedures for the hearing aids donation will be set up and distributed through the National Committees in different countries.