

## **APACPH Vision 2025**

### **Preamble**

1. The current Mission and Vision statements are: “The Mission of the Consortium is to enhance Regional capacity to improve the quality of life and to address major public health challenges through the delivery of education, research and population health services by member institutions.” “The Vision of the Consortium is to achieve the highest possible level of health of all the people of the nations of the Asia-Pacific region.”
2. These statements are broad and generic, lacking in clear definable goals. As an academic consortium we can choose to have such broad and generic mission and vision (e.g. enhance academic collaborations, provide joint training and exchanges, etc). The greatest disadvantage of this is the plethora of such consortia and it will be difficult to sustain active and substantial size of membership.
3. On the other hand, having a specific traditional domain focus is also difficult for APACPH as there are already existing international and regional organisations. E.g. International Epidemiology Association, Asia Cohort Consortium, International Commission on Occupational Health, Asian Association of Occupational Health.

### **Value proposition of APACPH**

4. The unique features of APACPH are:
  - a. Majority are institutional members rather than individual members
  - b. We have a journal
  - c. We have a small and potentially growing number of governmental members
  - d. Majority of our members are in the Asia-Pacific region or with interests in Public Health issues of the Asia-Pacific region.
5. Most Public Health philosophy and principles are universal and global. However, it is the implementation that is highly contextual. Borrowing Winslow’s definition of Public Health, at the risk of oversimplification, the Science of Public Health is universal but the Art of Public Health is very local, especially the “organised community effort” of Public Health. Furthermore, in today’s context and especially in the Asia-Pacific region, the involvement of the government and political machinery is key in the practice of Public Health.

6. There are not many international Public Health organisations that are focused on the implementation of Public Health programmes, especially in this region. Most of these takes a specific disciplinary approach (e.g. Health Technology Assessment International Health). A specific value proposition of APACPH can be in the area of implementation of Public Health policies and programs or increasingly known as implementation science.

### **Proposed APACPH Mission and Vision2025**

7. The Mission of APACPH is to promote the translation of Public Health principles and research into evidence-based policies and programs to improve the health and well-being of populations.
8. The Vision of APACPH is to provide thought leadership in Public health implementation science. By 2025, APACPH would have demonstrated this through:
  - a. Symposia and training courses in PH Implementation Science
  - b. Publication of White Papers on PH Implementation Science projects
  - c. Assist Asia-Pacific governments with the implementation of Public Health policies and programmes.
9. Strategy:
  1. Commission thought leadership symposia on implementation science: evidence-based policy, trans-disciplinary approaches in Public Health, relevance of political science in PH training, role of participatory action research. This symposia should be branded as “Thought Leadership Symposia in Implementation Science” with APACPH as co-organiser.
  2. Focus on a few key policy level questions that require the integration of evidence and implementation science. Commission these as White Papers for Asia-Pacific countries and have them published in the journal. E.g. Tobacco plain packaging, E-cigs, sugar tax, food labelling etc. Launch these white papers at annual meetings as well as within member countries with academic-government symposia.
  3. Commission case studies on implementation science and introduce these through short courses branded as “Short Course on Implementation Science” with APACPH as co-organiser.

### **Next Steps**

10. Discussion and decision at Sabah Exco Meeting. Socialise at Sabah GA.
11. Office bearers to develop performance indicators for 2025 and action plan