

Road Map for Health Care Services



Input from AEF

VISION



- ⌘ Increased international competitiveness of the ASEAN health care sector through increased mobility of professionals and capital within the region
- ⌘ Diffusion of the modern medical technology and practice from the export-oriented health subsectors in the ASEAN countries into the respective public sectors, with the goal of achieving better public health and provision of an affordable health care on an equitable basis
- ⌘ ASEAN as healthcare services hub by 2010

END GOALS

- ⌘ Free flow of nurses, midwives, physiotherapists and para-medical personnel by 2008
- ⌘ Free flow of health care services and products by 2010

ROAD MAP

- ⌘ The **scope of the sector** should include
 - ☒ Professional Medical and Dental Services
 - ☒ Professional Services provided by midwives, nurses, physiotherapists and para-medical personnel
 - ☒ including homeopathy, acupuncture and nutrition
 - ☒ Hospital services including rehabilitation and psychiatric hospital services
 - ☒ Other Human Health Services
 - ☒ including residential aged care health facilities services and services of medical laboratories
 - ☒ Consider traditional medicine and treatment (Chinese, Indian, Malay) and general wellness clinics (including traditional massage and health spas).

Horizontal Disciplines for Domestic Regulation

- ☒ transparency of regulation including notification of changes and public access points;
- ☒ necessity (minimum trade-restrictiveness) of the qualification and licensing requirements and procedures, and
- ☒ liberalisation of Mode 4 for business travellers and professional services providers across the sectors (e.g. by removing caps on types of work permits).
- ☒ NB. restrictions/exceptions based on legit. Objective (health care: patient protection, public health obj)

Comprehensive Approach: cluster of goods and serv.

- ⌘ Elimination of tariffs for all healthcare and related products end of 2004 (ASEAN Healthcare Conference, 16 Jan, 2004, Singapore).
- ⌘ Establish database on NTM, finalize improvement of CEPT ROO, green lane, WTO customs valuation, single window (some 2005 some 2004)

Trade in services: mode 1

- ⌘ Tele health services (outsourcing from back office to clinical diagnostics): link to ICT, E-ASEAN, efficient telecom, ITA etc
 - ☒ Health informatics and billing systems (subject to compliance with domestic privacy and data protection laws);
 - ☒ Potential for outsourcing of laboratory and imaging services from developed countries
 - ☒ ICT in medical education and continuing professional training (vehicle to harmonisation/ conformity of educational standards and practices)

Mode 2: Consumption Abroad

- ⌘ Eliminate visa requirements for ASEAN
- ⌘ Portability of private health insurance (cosmetic surgery, dentistry not affected by lack of portability of insurance) – remove government measures that impede such portability.
- ⌘ For health tourism (medical, retirement) – need to also link to travel and tourism sectors to create more attractive bundled products.

Mode 3: commercial presence

- ⌘ Allow 100% foreign ownership of medical establishments like hospitals, GP clinics, pharmacies, dental clinics and wellness centers
- ⌘ One stop center to facilitate healthcare investments
- ⌘ Eliminate withholding tax on intra ASEAN royalties payment by 2008
- ⌘ NB. Elimination of ownership restrictions not sufficient to attract investment: investment climate, infrastructure

Mode 4: movement of natural persons

- ⌘ Eliminate visa requirements for ASEAN
- ⌘ Multilateral and ASEAN+1 agreements – access to markets of professionals, start with mobility of nurses
- ⌘ MRA on health professionals,
 - ☑ including development of core competency standards, provision for temporary registration of foreign doctors licensed/registered in their home jurisdictions and employed in foreign-owned hospitals etc.

Domestic Regulation

- ⌘ Cooperation in best practices/norms for domestic regulation; appropriate legislation and institutions
- ⌘ Standards
 - ☒ Hospital and technical/standard requirements
 - ISO 9002 hospital certification;
 - ☒ GHTF Standard for medical devices; ISO 13485:2003 Medical devices.

Capacity Building

- ⌘ Training, attachment programs for medical and medical related workers, exchanges and training for medical professionals especially for specialists and skilled operators of medical equipment (ongoing). This will facilitate MRAs.

OTHER

- ⌘ Increase scope for IPR cooperation (2004)
-facilitates pharmaceutical and biomedical R&D
- ⌘ Public health issue
- ⌘ Professionals standard: self regulation, competition policy to prevent anti competitive behavior

Measuring and monitoring milestones

- ⌘ Each ASEAN country to have an Individual action plan (IAP) with future steps outlined
- ⌘ Formula approach – e.g. achieve a 50% reduction in the limits on foreign ownership (Mode 3) by 2008, and a 100% reduction by 2010; eliminate quotas on work permits (increase ceiling by 50% by 2008 and eliminate by 2010)