

DAILY BULLETIN

MEETING OPENS WITH STRONG COMMITMENT TO SIDS INITIATIVES



The 6th Meeting of African Ministers for Health of Small Island Developing States opened on 26th September 2017 at the Savoy Resort and Spa, in Beau Vallon. The meeting was officially opened by His Excellency Danny Faure, President of the Republic of Seychelles.

Attending the ceremony were the ministers and heads of delegation participating in the conference, the WHO Regional Director for Africa, as well as government officials and WHO delegations from the five Small Island Developing States - Seychelles, Mauritius, Cabo Verde, Comoros and Sao Tome and Principe leading the conference.

Strong partnerships forged during the 10 years were the highlight of the evening, coupled a determination to ascertain new avenues and powerful commitment to the meetings and recommendations that arise.

"This forum is celebrating a solid partnership of over 10 years' collective service to the people of Small Island Developing States of the African Region."

- Dr Matshidiso Moeti

"Individually and collectively we have been writing the book of international commitment for health and of multi-lateral collaboration in health. We should be proud of what we have done together, But we must put even greater individual and collective effort to keep pushing to reach the next milestone."

- President Danny Faure

"Il est important que nous explorions des stratégies innovantes qui permettent d'identifier des sources potentielles d'investissement et de partenariats adaptées à nos spécificités insulaires. Nous devons approcher les autres groupes et institution qui partagent nos priorités."

- Minister Jean Paul Adam

"The meetings provide an opportunity to improve health in the island nations through strengthened actions collaboration in priority strategic and technical health area and follow up on progress towards commitment."

- Dr Anwar Husnoo



PARTICIPANTS DISCOVER EVERYDAY SEYCHELLES IN BUS TOUR



The first day of activities for the meeting kicked off with a bus tour in Victoria and its surrounding districts, for both the ministers and delegates.

The highly packed bus of conference delegates pulled off to a slow start from the Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Hotel at 9am sharp, quickly building momentum as the sightseers rolled closer to the first site listed on the brochure.

Guiding the way, for this high-spirited group was novice but extremely talented tour-guide for the day, Dr Naomi Adeline, Public Health Doctor at the Ministry of Health. Dr Adeline brightly entertained all on the bus, even the other Ministry of Health staffs, with her infinite repertoire of local lore which she didn't hesitate to share with the group.

Ask anyone who dared to venture on this 3-hour long journey, ending at the infamous 'La Buse' treasure site at Bel Ombre and they will confidently tell you that "one small bite of the Seychelles breadfruit, you are bound to return to the beautiful islands of Seychelles".

While the delegates uncovered local legends and travelled their way to possible riches, the Minister made a prolonged stop at the Plaisance Home for the Elderly. At the home, they had a chance to interact with amicable residents who invited them into their warmly decorated dwellings to share some of their stories from the good old days.

What do you expect from the meeting?

"I hope countries can agree on a mechanism for pooled procurement and make it happen."
- Dr Bhupinder Aulakh (WHO Seychelles)

"I expect some list of common actions to be taken so SIDS can move forward."
- Dr Hana Bekele (FRH WHO/AFRO)

"Greater focus on addressing issues of SIDS countries, both from National Gov. perspective and WHO."
- Dr Francis Kasolo (Coordinator Country Support WHO/AFRO)

"To see focused discussions on SIDS health issues, and what member states will do from here to support WHO."
- Steven Shongwe (A.G Director NCD Cluster)

"Interesting tour. People are warm & sociable. Beautiful country. I recommend every to come again."
- Dr Sebastiana Nikomo (WHO AFRO)

"Le tour de la ville et le visite des sites hospitalières ainsi que la maison de retraite était très instructifs."
- Dr Randriamarotia Willy (Dir. CAB Madagascar)

"It was very informative, scenic & beautiful."
- Grace Kabamila

"Bus tour was fantastic! We visited the nicest sceneries of Mabe. The overall ambience in the bus was hyper thanks to our dynamic & vibrant tour guide, Dr Naomi Adeline"
- Dr Tarande Manzila (WHO Representative Sao Tome e Principe)

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Ministry of
Health Seychelles

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