

Vote of Thanks

Dr. Palitha Abeykoon,

Director, Health Technology and Pharmaceuticals, WHO/SEARO

I am sure I speak for all of us. We are very pleased with the way this Conference has progressed. I think we can feel satisfied with the Calcutta Declaration on Public Health, the recommendations made by the groups that deliberated on many important aspects of the conference objectives.

On behalf of the WHO, we will do our best to follow up on these recommendations. First of all, we will bring out the proceedings of the Conference as soon as possible. We will share the Calcutta Declaration widely with the Governments and NGOs and our development partners. We will also work with the Governments in the Region to develop practical strategies to implement them. We will also pursue with our partners such as the UN agencies, the bilateral agencies to see that they also have these recommendations in their own development support agendas. We will also be happy to play the role of coordinator and facilitator in all of this work.

We hope that all of you will go back and take up these issues in your own countries and institutions, with a serious commitment. The success or failure will depend on our collective efforts.

What remains for me to do is to thank all of you for being here. On behalf of the WHO I want to thank all of you for attending this historic conference. All of us can be very pleased at the way we have worked together to arrive at these recommendations. I also want to thank the local organizers, particularly, Dr. Indira Chakravarty and her staff of the All India Institute for all the excellent arrangements. You have done very well for all of us.

Finally, I wish you a safe journey home.