

MANGALUREAN DOCTOR WILL ADDRESS UN REGIONAL MEET IN THAILAND TOMORROW

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TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: A Mangalurean doctor will deliberate on how frameworks on disaster risk reduction can be strengthened by mainstreaming health in all policies across different sectors and agencies at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Escap) in Thailand on Tuesday.

Escap is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region. It is made up of 53 member states and nine associate members, with a geographical scope that stretches from Turkey in the west to the Pacific island nation of Kiribati in the east, and from the Russian Federation in the north to New Zealand in the south.

Dr Edmond Fernandes, founder and CEO, Center for Health and Development (CHD Group) and guest faculty, department of public health, Niite University, has been invited as the resource person to address the regional forum on translating global frameworks into practice.

Dr Edmonds said Asian countries are being brought together in this dialogue on what is the way forward to optimise and translate global policies into grass-root actions.

Dr Edmond will highlight on how south-south co-operation at the ASEAN level can create a new world order in strengthening international development and achieving disaster resilience and meaningfully bringing climate change adaptation practices. Different



Dr Edmond Fernandes at UNESCAP, Thailand.

countries will also share their experience and how disaster response is handled and sharing of learning and best practices will take place through this Asia-level dialogue, he added.

The coherence approach is emphasised in the various global, regional and national frameworks pertaining to disaster risk reduction and the United Nations member states in Asia and the Pacific have called for enhancing regional co-operation to build resilience to disasters in the region.

Besides that Dr Edmond will hold parallel meetings with Chulalongkorn University, Mahidol University and other institutes in Thailand to further the public health agenda for Asia.

Three landmark frameworks - the Sendai Framework on Dis-

aster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the Paris agreement under the UN Framework Convention on climate change have all called upon member states to mainstream disaster resilience in the context of sustainable development.

The role of local governments in decentralizing risk informed development and adapting the global agendas to local milieu and constraints is in the process of being fully operationalized.

In this thematic session, participants will share various good practices in the region including Escap's pilot capacity building training workshop in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into subnational development planning and budgeting processes in Central Java Province, Indonesia; UNDP's '5-10-50' programme to support countries and communities to deliver better risk-informed development; ADPC's training course of the regional consultative committee on disaster management on the mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development; and GIZ's approach of suitability modelling as a good practice example for risk-informed spatial planning at subnational level.

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