



**PMAC** | PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE **2018**



## **PARALLEL SESSION 2.3**

**DEALING WITH AN INTER-CONNECTED WORLD: PARTNERSHIPS FOR  
PREPAREDNESS, DETECTION AND RESPONSE DURING HIGH VISIBILITY EVENTS**



## | BACKGROUND

Mass gatherings are recognised to have the potential to enhance spread of infectious diseases as well as being potential targets for deliberate events. Although both these risks are unlikely, the rise of Zika infection in the run up to the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in Saudi Arabia highlighted how these events can create a perceived, if not actual, global health threat and a political as well as health challenge.

The inspiration of this session derives from the next three Olympiads (Winter 2018, Summer 2020 and Winter 2022) being in the western pacific region (S Korea, Japan and China respectively). This session will be based on previous sporting mass gatherings such as the Rio Olympics, the London Olympics, and the World Cup, religious gatherings such as the Hajj, and large state events such as the King's funeral in Thailand. The session aims to share learning and best practices from a biosecurity and terrorism perspective and to explore how such mass gathering events can best be planned to minimise any health risks. Many mass gatherings, especially international sporting events, are organised by what are effectively private sector companies and the relationship between the private and public sector partners is vitally important.

## | OBJECTIVES

- To share learning and experience from previous events
- To explore effective risk mitigation strategies
- To examine the health and political interface of mass gatherings, including private sector partners
- To explore how mass gatherings can be used to improve global health security capacity



## Panelist

### Nakorn Prem Sri

*Director of Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control*

Ministry of Public Health  
Thailand

Dr. Nakorn Prem Sri is currently the acting Director of Bureau of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand, appointed in November 2017. He finished his medical degree from Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand in 1993. He started his work in the Ministry of Public Health, by working at the district hospital as a director in 1993-1996. Then he moved to study in Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) at Division of Epidemiology, Thai-MOPH in 1996-1998. After graduated in his epidemiology training, he returned to his home town at Sakaew Crown Prince provincial Hospital to work as a chief of Social Medicine Department, which involved particularly in health promotion, disease prevention and control. In 2003, he move to work as a research investigator team member in the world largest HIV Vaccine Phase III trial (RV144, Thai Trial), conducted by the collaborations among Department of Disease Control, Mahidol University, Armed Force Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS). This vaccine revealed the first ever efficacious HIV vaccine at 31.2% of its efficacy and provided the significant scientific knowledge for further HIV vaccine development that aiming for the licensure vaccine for the world. Having finished the vaccine trial, in 2009, Dr. Nakorn was assigned to be the Director of Principal Recipient Office (PR-DCC) which is the funding management office of the funding support from the Global Fund to Fight Against AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM). His work experiences in both HIV vaccine trial and PR-DDC provide him both research and public health program management skills esp infectious disease prevention and control program.