

# Framework for Verification of Measles and Rubella Elimination in the WHO South-East Asia Region



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

**World Health  
Organization**

**South-East Asia**



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# FOREWORD



In September 2019, the Seventy-Second Session of the Regional Committee for the WHO South-East Asia Region committed to eliminate measles and rubella by 2023, replacing the earlier target of eliminating measles and controlling rubella. To help Member States achieve the new goal, the Regional Committee endorsed a strategic plan for the period 2020–2024, which is now guiding the Member States' progress. The goal of eliminating measles and rubella is one of the eight Flagship Priorities in the Region and will help Member States to contribute to WHO's "triple billion" targets and accelerate progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal-3.

Since 2016, the Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination in WHO South-East Asia (SEA-RVC) has measured the progress of efforts to eliminate measles and control rubella. The revision of the goal necessitated a new framework, which I am pleased to present. The following verification framework was developed by the SEA-RVC members and national verification committees (NVC), programme teams of the Member States, partners and the WHO Secretariat. I congratulate all who contributed to this vital document.

The framework uses two essential criteria and five lines of evidence to verify the elimination of measles and rubella. It classifies countries into several categories on the basis of the epidemiology of measles and rubella in the country, and highlights the additional interventions required. While this document will directly guide the work of SEA-RVC and NVC members, I urge managers of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) and partners to also use it, in conjunction with the strategic plan, to accelerate progress.

Given the clarity of the goal for elimination and the strength of the Region's strategy, I am certain that Member States will continue to reduce the burden of measles and rubella. WHO is committed to supporting Member States as they strive to achieve the elimination target, expand the coverage of immunization, and progress towards the achievement of the Flagship Priorities, WHO's triple billion targets and Sustainable Development Goal 3.-



Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh  
Regional Director

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