



News/Photos

Official launch of NPRA (18-Jul-16)



It was an exciting atmosphere in the premise previously known as the NPCB/BPFK. Guests from various organisations were there to witness the launch of the rebranding of NPCB to NPRA (National Pharmacy Regulatory Agency), or ARFN (Agensi Regulatori Farmasi Negara). The special event had the YB Minister of Health Datuk Seri S. Subramaniam as the guest to officiate the rebranding exercise. Special videos documenting the history and evolution of the agency were presented in addition to the speeches and press conference, and visit to the labs. Malaysia is truly blessed to have a regulatory agency that is well recognised in the global community.

Training for Trainers (TOT) -Good Governance for Medicines



7 member Companies from MAPS, led by the President, participated in the Workshop, "Training for Trainers (TOT) - Good Governance for Medicines (GGM)", organised by the Bahagian Farmasi, MoH, on 10th May 2016. Other participants were from PhAMA, MOPI, MPS, MCPG and MADSA. It was a whole day Program which involved 3 lectures, followed by discussions and presentations on 10 cases. Stakeholders are expected to embrace and practise GGM as it would help to promote integrity in the Industry.

Briefing on Decisions regarding Rang Undang-undang Farmasi aka Pharmacy Bill(RUUF) for Stakeholders



A briefing was held on 9th May 2016 at the Ministry of Health, Putrajaya for stakeholders by the Director General of Health, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham on the latest development on the Pharmacy Bill (RUUF). Mr Lim Teng Chyuan and Dr Choe Tong Seng participated in the briefing.

PRP Training Program discussion group



In response to the call by the Pharmacy Board, Ministry of Health, to the Pharmaceutical Industry to participate in the 1-year training Program for the PRP (Provisionally Registered Pharmacists), an interest group among the members met on 14th April 2016 in the MAPS Secretariat to draft a PRP Training Program. This would then be submitted to the Pharmacy Board for approval. Upon approval, this Program will be the template used by participating Companies.

1st CEO's/Senior Manager's Dinner gathering of 2016



The dinner gathering for the year 2016 was held on 22nd March 2016 at the Soleil Restaurant, Petaling Jaya. As usual there was much camaraderie around the table. Everyone had serious and light moments during the eating and sharing. Looking forward to more participation in the next gathering!

MAPS 5th Annual General Meeting



The 5th Annual General Meeting was held at the MAPS Secretariat on 22nd March 2016. The Board and the various Committees presented their respective Report Cards for 2015. Also shared were the challenges for 2016 and beyond. New Board members were elected for the fresh term 2016/2018 (March) with Mr TC Lim as the new President for the Association.

Challenges & Issues with Registration and Variations Applications



MAPS, PhAMA and MOPI jointly organised a Training Seminar, in collaboration with the National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau, on "Challenges & Issues with Registration and Variations Applications" held on 09-10th March 2016 in the Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya. It was attended by CEOs and Regulatory Officers of the Pharmaceutical Industry. There were about 300 participants.

MPS Strategic Meeting



The Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society extended an invitation to MAPS, amongst other stakeholders, to participate in their Strategic meeting which was held at the Grand Dorsett Subang on the 18th December 2015. Special guest for the meeting included YBhg Dato' Eisah Abdul Rahman and legal counsel YBhg Dato' Manjit Singh.

The event that stretched from the morning until 10 at night got participants informed and discussing a few interesting topics such as the MPS Foundation, MPS Structure, Government Pharmacy and Community Pharmacy. The MPS had representatives from the Council, and area committees, while the Malaysian Community Pharmacy Guild and Sabah Pharmaceutical Society also participated.

Good Governance for Medicines Meeting



There was a Working Committee Meeting on Good Governance for Medicines (GGM) on 16 December 2015 at the Bahagian Farmasi, KKM. GGM encompasses the Conduct of Business Practices within the Perkhidmatan Farmasi (PF) KKM and also between PF and the stakeholders of the Industry. Objective is to ensure best practices embedding professionalism and integrity. (Picture above: Dr Choe emphasizing the need for companies not represented by a body to also comply with GGM)

Rang Undang-Undang Farmasi Workshop



The Pharmacy Bill (Rang Undang-Undang Farmasi, RUUF) is the amalgamation of the existing 4 legislations into 1 "mother legislation" where it will regulate the practices of the (1) Pharmacists and (2) the Pharmaceutical trade. All stakeholders were invited to gather their respective input in this 5-days workshop before the Bill is forwarded to the AG Chamber and then to the Parliament for the 2016 sitting.

TPPA briefing on the Chapter relating to the Pharmaceuticals - Intellectual Property



TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (TPPA)

By
Rita Elisha Mering
Ministry of International Trade & Industry
18 November 2015

'Driving Transformation, Powering Growth'

Much has been said about the TPPA recently in light of the conclusion of the 12 nations agreement. Many concerns were raised in the media especially in relation to how the rakyat may have to bear the brunt of price increases when this comes into effect.

The Ministry of Health organised a briefing on TPPA on the Chapter relating to the Pharmaceuticals - Intellectual Property. Both the Ministry of Health and Ministry of International Trade and Industry gave detailed insights and impact analysis should the TPPA be signed by the Country. After much discussion and clarification, the conclusion was that Malaysia would benefit as a signatory to the TPPA, and the impact on medicine prices would remain neutral, as Malaysia has managed to negotiate some terms specific to her needs to safeguard the rakyat.

Meeting with YB Senator Paul Low on 29th September 2015



MAPS, together with the other Pharmaceutical Stakeholders, were invited by YB Senator Datuk Paul Low, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department for a Meeting on 29th September 2015 at his office. The Minister is responsible for promoting Governance and Integrity which involves collaborating with relevant stakeholders including Federal Ministries and State Governments to promote good governance practice and strengthening of transparency and accountability.

Working Committees will be formed by the year end to look into some of the challenges faced by the Pharmaceutical Industry.

Fiesta Kenali Ubat Anda in conjunction with World Pharmacists Day 2015



The day started early on 25th September with a packed eventful day which saw the involvement of pharmacists from community, industry, enforcement, regulatory, academia and even retired pharmacists, together with public attending the Fiesta at the Shah Alam Convention Centre. Organised by the Pharmaceutical Services Division and supported by various organisations such as :

- Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society
- Malaysian Community Pharmacy Guild
- Malaysian Organisation of Pharmaceutical Industries
- Pharmaceutical Association of Malaysia, and
- Malaysian Association of Pharmaceutical Suppliers

The day kicked off with participants in orange T-shirts involved in a session of aerobic exercise from as early as 7.30 am. Throughout the day, various booths were on display, together with point-of-care tests such as blood pressure monitoring, and also various talks were hosted simultaneously. These activities took a break only for the official launch by the Health Minister YB Datuk Seri Dr S Subramaniam at 11 am.

The launch saw the mascots, the very innovative Dikir Farmasi, reciting of the Pharmacists oath, speeches by Dr Salmah Bahri - Director of Pharmacy Enforcement and YB Health Minister

After lunch, the fun continued with various stage performances and comedy presentation, capping a memorable day at 5.30 pm.

MAPS thanks Emily Chuah of Hyphens for representing us on the committee for the organising of the event.

2nd CEO's/Senior Managers Dinner Aug 2015



The 2nd CEO/Senior Management dinner was held on 18th August 2015 at the Barn Thai Restaurant, Plaza 33, PJ. Dinner was good. The fellowship was even better. With an attendance increased from the first one, participants were able to share many common subjects of interest. The evening ended with all present looking forward to the next gathering!

National Regulatory Conference 2015



The Biennial NRC took place at the One World Hotel from 4-6 August 2015, which attracted over 400 participants. The Participants were locals as well as from Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, Korea, Phillipines, Vietnam and Thailand. The Conference was declared opened by the Minister of Health, YB Dato' Seri Dr S Subramanian. The Conference's objectives of

1. disseminating information on the latest development and challenges in the evolving regulatory landscape
2. promoting and strengthening smart partnership amongst stakeholders
3. enhancing readiness in the competitive healthcare business environment

were successfully met. MAPS contributed manpower from its Regulatory Committee.

CEO's Dinner May 2015



The first gathering of MAPS CEO's was held on 13 May 2015 at the Coliseum Restaurant, Plaza 33, PJ. All those attended expressed the desire to have frequent gatherings, not only for networking, socialising, good food but also sharing of experiences. It was agreed that a quarterly gathering, unless otherwise, will be held. Invitations will also be extended to the Senior Management members of the respective Companies.

With the recent implementation of the GST, the CEO's shared their experiences and issues faced in the initial implementation of the new tax regime. Several inputs were given which were helpful to those who attended.



We look forward to a larger gathering of the CEO's and senior managers. The wise saying goes "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another", the coming together of more managers will sharpen MAPS.

4th Annual General Meeting



The 4th Annual General Meeting was held on 19th March 2015 in the Secretariat. The meeting was called to order at 2.15 pm upon achieving the necessary quorum. Members were briefed on the activities of the previous Year, and the challenges for the current Year by the President and the various Committee Chairmen or the representative.



Business Opportunities for Belarus in Malaysian Healthcare Industry

Dr Choe Tong Seng met up with the Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus, His Excellency Vladimir Lopato-Zagorsky (middle of the picture) and the First Secretary, Mr Nikolai Divakov (third from left) in the One World Hotel, Petaling Jaya on 12th March 2015. Had discussion on the opportunities for Companies in Belarus for the Healthcare Industry in Malaysia particularly the pharmaceuticals, medical equipment/device and medical education. Members of MAPS will be expected to be the first point of contact for any business collaboration.



GST Talk - Getting Started

The Talk was held on 5th December 2014. The Speaker, Hedy Tan shared her experience in GST execution and GST processes. The second Speaker, Mr Leong Vai Long spoke on the importance of having intelligent IT software to assist businesses in successful GST implementation.

Outline of Briefing:



1. Revisit Goods and Services Tax Act 2014: Scope and charge of GST, Input tax credit mechanism, GST returns, accounting system, GAF Files, NEML
2. Areas of Concern: GST Training, IT System, Business Review, Cash Flow Management
3. Some Transitional Issues: Stock in-hand, Special Refund (Sales Tax), DO, Invoice, Payment



There were 44 participants. Many had expressed that they had better understanding and the requirements in GST implementation

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