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SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre

At a glance



SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre

Thimi, Bhaktapur

P. O. Box No. 9517, Kathmandu, Nepal

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SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STC)

At a Glance

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2006

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Foreword



This publication – SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STC) - At a glance is a booklet of brief introduction of STC. I am very much pleased to introduce STC & its activities through this booklet.

SAARC has established Regional Centres in different areas for overall development of the people of this Region. This Centre is one of those. Member States have given high priority for controlling TB and HIV/AIDS. STC is working for the prevention and control of TB and HIV/AIDS in the Region by coordinating the efforts of TB and HIV/AIDS control programme of the Member States. We appreciate all for their efforts to control TB and HIV epidemic in the Region as well as world wide.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kashi Kant Jha'.

Dr. Kashi Kant Jha
Director

SAARC

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) comprises Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



First SAARC Summit (Dhaka, 7-8 Dec. 1985)

SAARC is a manifestation of the determination of the people of South Asia to work together towards finding solutions to their common problems in a spirit of friendship, trust

THE SAARC WAS ESTABLISHED WHEN ITS CHARTER WAS FORMALLY ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 8, 1985 BY THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF SEVEN COUNTRIES.

and understanding and to create an order based on mutual respect, equity and shared benefits. The SAARC Secretariat is situated at

Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Secretaries - General of SAARC



Abul Ahsan
(Bangladesh)



K. K. Bhargava
(India)



Ibrahim Hussain Zaki
(Maldives)



Y. K. Silwal
(Nepal)



N. U. Hassan
(Pakistan)



Nihal Rodrigo
(Sri Lanka)



Q. A. M. A. Rahim
(Bangladesh)



Chenkyab Dorji
(Bhutan)



Building - SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu

SAARC has established different Regional Centres:

SAARC Regional Centres

Established Centres:

1. SAARC Agricultural Information Centre (SAIC), Dhaka - 1988
2. **SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STC), Kathmandu - 1992**
3. SAARC Documentation Centre (SDC), New Delhi - 1994
4. SAARC Meteorological Research Centre (SMRC), Dhaka - 1995
5. SAARC Human Resources Development Centre (SHRDC), Islamabad - 1999
6. SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre, Maldives -2004
7. SAARC Information Centre, Kathmandu - 2004
8. SAARC Energy Centre, Islamabad -.2004

Centres being established:

9. SAARC Cultural Centre, Sri Lanka
10. SAARC Forestry Centre, Bhutan
11. SAARC Centre for Disaster Management and Preparedness, India

SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre (STC)

1. Introduction:

SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre is one of the Regional Centres of SAARC working for prevention and control of TB and HIV/AIDS in the Region by coordinating the efforts of the National TB Control Programmes (NTPs) and National AIDS Control Programmes (NACPs) of Member Countries. The Centre is functioning since 1992.

The Second Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of SAARC Member Countries held at Male in July 1984 suggested for formulation of specific projects pertaining to one of the five disease control areas identified by working group of health & population activities. Accordingly, a proposal for establishment of the SAARC TB Centre in Nepal was submitted. The Technical Committee at its eighth meeting held in Colombo from 16 to 18 July 1990 considered the proposal. The Standing Committee at its thirteenth session held at Male from 16 to 17 November 1990 decided that a revised proposal on the regional centre for Tuberculosis be prepared by Nepal.

The Heads of State or Government of Member Countries of SAARC at their Fifth Summit held in Male from 22 to 23 November 1990 decided that SAARC Tuberculosis Centre would be set up in Nepal. In this way the SAARC TB Centre (STC) came into existence and started it functioning since 1992 as one of the Regional centres of SAARC.



The Thirty-first Session of Standing Committee of SAARC held in Dhaka on November 9-10, 2005 approved the renaming of the Centre as **SAARC Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Centre**.

2. Objectives

- To work for prevention and control of TB and HIV/AIDS in the Region by coordinating the efforts of the National Tuberculosis Control Programmes and National AIDS Control Programmes of the Member States.

3. The Governing Board

The Centre has a Governing Board consisting of 10 Members, as follows:

- One representative from each SAARC Member State
- Representative from SAARC Secretariat
- Representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Nepal
- Director of STC (Member Secretary)

4. Functions of the Governing Board

The Governing Board meets once in a year to plan the programmes and budget for the coming year and review the progress and activities of previous year. The First Meeting of the Board adopted the rules and regulations of the Centre.

4.1. Board Meetings:

First –	March 24-25, 1992,
Second -	April 21-22, 1993,
Third -	February 8-9, 1994,
Fourth -	January 31-Feb. 1, 1995,
Fifth -	March 12-14, 1996,
Sixth -	January 7-8, 1997,
Seventh -	October 26-27, 1997,
Eighth -	December 22-23, 1998,
Ninth -	October 27-28, 1999,
Tenth -	February 27-28, 2001,
Eleventh -	November 20-21, 2001,
Twelfth -	November 18-19, 2002,
Thirteenth -	October 23-24, 2003,
Fourteenth -	November 9-10, 2004,
Fifteenth -	October 5-6, 2005.

5. Functions of STC

- To act as a Regional Co-ordination Centre for National Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Control Programmes in the Region.
- To promote and coordinate action for the prevention of TB/HIV co-infection in the Region
- To collect, collate, analyze and disseminate all relevant information regarding the latest development and findings in the field of Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and TB/HIV Co-infection in the Region and elsewhere.
- To establish a networking arrangement such as epidemiological network, laboratory network among the National Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS Control Programmes of Member States.
- To initiate, undertake and coordinate the Research in Technical, operational and other aspects related to Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and TB/HIV Co infection in the Region.
- To assist Member States for harmonization of policies and strategies on TB, HIV/AIDS and TB/HIV co-infection.
- To develop human resource capacity in the Region.

- To assist National TB Reference Laboratories in the Region in Quality Assurance of Sputum Microscopy and standardization of Culture and Drug Sensitivity Testing and implementation of bio-safety measures.
- To carryout situation analysis and other important works identified by the Technical Committees and Governing Board.
- To organize advocacy, awareness and Partnership Programmes.

6. Staffing of the Centre

The Director, Deputy Director, Professionals and the General Services Staff are working to run the Centre.

7. Activities of the Centre

The Centre organized/conducted the following activities since its inception.

7.1. Training:

The overall objective of the training is to impart and/or strengthen the managerial skills necessary to manage the NTPs and NACPs. Training is a major component among the different activities of the Centre.

7.1.1. Trainers' Training on TB Control Management in Member States:

1. Kathmandu, Nepal	-	July 1994
2. Kathmandu, Nepal	-	July 1995
3. Kathmandu, Nepal	-	June 1996
4. Male, Maldives	-	July 1998
5. Kathmandu, Nepal	-	Dec. 1998
6. Thimphu, Bhutan	-	June 2000
7. Bangalore, India	-	Dec. 2001
8. Colombo, Sri Lanka	-	Dec. 2002
9. Islamabad, Pakistan	-	Dec. 2003
10. Dhaka, Bangladesh	-	May 2004
11. Islamabad, Pakistan	-	Dec. 2005.

7.1.2. Training on other aspects:

1. Training on TB Bacteriology in NTI, Bangalore – April 1996
2. Training on Strengthening IEC Activities on TB & HIV/AIDS, New Delhi - Feb 1998
3. Training on Data Management Skills in TB Control, Kathmandu - Dec. 2002
4. Epidemiological Training, Kathmandu – Oct. 2003
5. TB Lab Management Course, Kathmandu – Dec. 2003
6. Training on Data Management of TB & HIV/AIDS Control Programmes, Kathmandu - July 2005

7.2. Seminars:

The Centre has provided platform for interaction, sharing experiences and new findings of research, implement policies and strategies in order to implement effective and successful TB and HIV/AIDS control in the Region. The Centre has organized following seminars:

1. Socio-cultural aspects of TB, Kathmandu, Oct. - 1993
2. TB programme managers, Kathmandu, Nov. – 1994
3. TB control programme through PHC approach, Kathmandu, April – 1995
4. Pilot demonstration areas of TB control, Kathmandu, Jan. – 1997
5. Production, marketing/distribution and quality control of anti-TB drugs, Kathmandu, July. – 1997
6. Gender and sociological issues related to TB, Kathmandu July – 1999
7. Compilation and updating of advocacy and IEC material relating to TB and HIV/AIDS, Kathmandu, Sept. – 2000

7.3. Workshops:

Through this method, TB and HIV/AIDS control programme managers could produce relevant, important and effective materials, guidelines, strategies etc. to help National TB Control Programmes as well as National AIDS Control Programmes.

1. Preparation of Health Education Materials to fulfill the need of the Member Countries, Kathmandu, Oct. – 1995.
2. Formulation of Guidelines for Coordination in Government and Private/ NGO Sector Initiatives of TB Control, Kathmandu, June – 1997.
3. Relating to Research on TB and HIV/AIDS in Member Countries, Kathmandu Oct. - 1997.
4. SAARC-CIDA Workshop on HIV/AIDS/TB Control, Kathmandu, March-1999.
5. Operational Research for TB Control in Member Countries, Kathmandu, Dec.- 2000.

6. Preparation of Strategic Long-term plan of STC for TB and HIV/AIDS control in the Region, Kathmandu, Nov.- 2001.
7. Development of research protocol related to operational research, Kathmandu, May-2002.
8. Regional workshop of Nodal Officers of Member Countries under SAARC-Canada Regional TB & HIV/AIDS Project, Kathmandu, July-2003.
9. Workshop to Develop SAARC Regional TB, HIV/AIDS & TB/HIV Co-infection strategy under SAARC-Canada Regional TB & HIV/AIDS Project, Kathmandu Oct.– 2003.
10. Regional Workshop on TB/HIV co-infection and Fixed Dose Combinations in TB Treatment Regimen/Protocol, Kathmandu, July-2004
11. Regional Workshop on TB Drug Management and to Develop Regional Guidelines for Treatment of MDR-TB, Kathmandu, Nepal - July 2004
12. Regional Workshop for Laboratory Supervisors on Quality Assurance in Sputum Microscopy Islamabad, Pakistan - August, 2004
13. SAARC Regional Workshop to Develop Protocol for QA on culture and DST in National TB Reference Labs. – Islamabad - July 2005
14. SAARC Regional Second Workshop on TB/HIV Co-infection to identify Research Areas & to Develop Research Protocol on the Identified Areas to TB/HIV Pilot Project Sites, Pune - 2005

7.4. Meetings:

Meetings on different technical issues of TB and HIV/AIDS control programmes, its planning and policies are organized to take joint decision for the Region. The Centre has organized following meetings.

1. Consultative Meeting on TB & HIV/AIDS, Kathmandu, Sep.-1996.
2. Tuberculosis Experts for Compilation of TB Control training Manuals for Member Countries, Kathmandu, June-1997.
3. TB Programme Managers Kathmandu, Dec.-1998.
4. Formulation of Urban TB Control Programme, Kathmandu, Oct.-1999.
5. Standardizing Training Curriculum and Workshop on Operational Research Related to TB Control in SAARC Countries, Kathmandu, Nov.-2000.
6. SAARC-WHO meeting of potential consultants in TB control, Kathmandu, 2001.
7. SAARC-WHO inter-country meeting on cross border initiatives in HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Kala-azar, Kathmandu, March-2001.
8. Formulate guidelines for Migratory Population for TB and HIV/AIDS Control in SAARC Countries, Kathmandu, Aug.-2001.
9. Meeting of Heads/Directors of the National TB Reference Lab. of SAARC Member Countries under SAARC-Canada Regional TB & HIV/AIDS Project, Kathmandu, Nov.-2002

10. SAARC Consultative Meeting for TB & HIV/AIDS Programme Managers, Kathmandu, Nov.-2002
11. SAARC Regional Meeting of Directors of National TB Reference Lab, Kathmandu, Dec.-2003
12. Joint SAARC-UNAIDS Regional Expert Meeting to develop a SAARC Regional Strategy on HIV/AIDS in Dhaka, 4-6 April 2005.

7.5. Research activities:

The Centre has conducted the following research:

7.5.1. Studies:

- Gender Differences Among Tuberculosis Patients in National TB Control Programmes within SAARC Countries – 2004.
- Barriers in Seeking Health Care in TB Control Programme:
 - A community based pilot study in Nepal – 2004
 - An institutional based pilot study in Bangladesh 2005.
- External Proficiency Testing of Smear Microscopy in National TB Reference Laboratories in Member States:
 - First Round in 2003
 - Second Round in 2004
 - Third Round in 2005
- Quality Assurance of Sputum Microscopy in Private Laboratories in Nepal – 2005.
- Prevalence of HIV among diagnosed TB patients in Nepal – 2005.

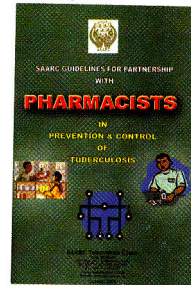
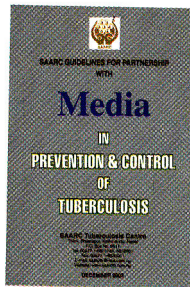
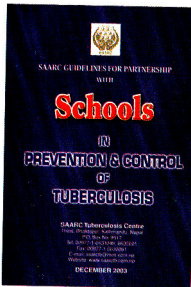
7.5.2. Situation Analysis:

- Situation Analysis of TB, HIV/AIDS and HIV/Co-infection in SAARC Region conducted in 2003
- Situation Analysis of Quality Assurance of Sputum Microscopy in Nepal and Bhutan conducted in 2003 and 2004 respectively
- Situation Analysis of Anti-TB Drugs in use in National TB Control Programme (NTP) in SAARC Member States carried out in 2004.
- Situation Analysis of Training Materials/Guidelines in use in National TB Control Programme (NTP) in SAARC Member States.

- Situation Analysis of TB Control Activities, and Observation of HIV/AIDS Control Activities conducted in Sri Lanka, Maldives and Bangladesh in 2004.
- Situation Analysis of TB and HIV/AIDS Control Activities, Epidemiological and Laboratory network Activities conducted in Bhutan in 2005.
- Involvement of Medical Colleges in National TB Control Programme (NTP) in SAARC Member States carried out in 2005.

7.6. Partnership Programme for control of TB & prevention of HIV/AIDS with Schools, Media, Medical Colleges, Private Practitioners, Pharmacists and Industry, Manpower Agencies, Travel Agencies

STC has been supplementing to Member States in their efforts by taking initiative to develop partnership and/or strengthening partnership with various stakeholders by organizing partnership programmes with Schools, Media, Industry, Private practitioner, Medical / Nursing College and Manpower Agencies. Guidelines for partnership programmes have been published:



The partnership programmes with the stakeholders support NTPs and NACPs to achieve the desired target.

7.7. Advocacy and Awareness

7.7.1. Commemoration World TB Day, World AIDS Day and Celebration of SAARC Charter Day

STC has been organizing awareness and advocacy programmes on the occasions of World TB Day and SAARC Charter Day since its establishment. Since 2004 the Centre has also been organizing similar programme on the occasion of World AIDS Day.

8. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of SAARC with other agencies dealing TB and HIV/AIDS issues:

The following MoUs/MoCs have supported the Centre for implementation of its activities in the Region.

- SAARC and CIDA signed a MoC in July 1997



MoU Signing between SAARC and CIDA

- SAARC and WHO signed a MoU for cooperation in August 2000



MoU Signing between SAARC and WHO

- SAARC and UNAIDS signed a MoU for cooperation in April 2004
- SAARC and UNFPA signed a MoU for cooperation in June 2004

9. SAARC-Canada Project: _____

SAARC-Canada Regional TB and HIV/AIDS Project was formulated to strengthen the capacity of the Centre and to support Regional & National responses to TB & HIV/AIDS epidemic. The project started in April 2000 and completed in March 2004, and achieved its goal.

10. Collaborating Centre of WHO: _____

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SAARC and WHO/SEARO was signed on 23 August 2000 to work collectively for TB & HIV/AIDS and to continue active collaboration with WHO and STC. Subsequently WHO designated STC as **WHO Collaborating Centre** with the following terms and reference:

- To assist in training of the health care workers including Physicians and Laboratory technicians from various countries of the South-East Asia Region on Tuberculosis Control.
- To collaborate and assist in developing and in carrying out research activities relating to Tuberculosis Control in the Region.
- To provide a forum for advocacy and for facilitating inter-country collaboration among various countries of the region for Tuberculosis and HIV prevention and care,
- To act as a technical resource centre for WHO/SEARO stop TB programmes and STI/HIV initiative, particularly in the area of training and operational research relating to TB and HIV/AIDS.

11. Strategies: _____

11.1. Regional Strategy for TB/HIV Co-infection:

A Regional Strategy for TB/HIV Co-infection has been developed in 2003. The strategy presents an overview of interaction between the two epidemic and the impact of the co-infection on the epidemiology and control of both the diseases. It also provides guidelines for tackling the co-infection problems in the Region through collaborative efforts of both the programmes.

11.2. HIV/AIDS

On the directive of the Twelfth Summit of SAARC, a Regional Strategy on HIV/AIDS has been developed through a consultative process and close collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in 2005, which has been approved by 31st Session of Standing Committee of SAARC held in Dhaka on November 9-10, 2005.

12. Library

A library has been established as a resource centre for Medical Books including TB and HIV/AIDS, Books, journals, newspapers, reports and other related publications are catalogued for the use of TB and HIV/AIDS control workers, researchers, specialists, medical practitioners, students, journalists and general people who are interested in TB and HIV/AIDS control activities.

- Nearly all national & international medical journals are regularly subscribed.
- Audio-visual library is also being setup. Internet facility is available in library.



13. Publications

The Centre publishes important documents on the priority areas on TB & HIV/AIDS control. STC Newsletter and **SAARC Journal of Tuberculosis, Lung Diseases and HIV/AIDS** are published twice in a year. The Centre publishes **epidemiological reports** on TB as well as HIV/AIDS and **Annual Reports of STC** activities yearly basis. The Centre also publishes all programme activities report, **research report** and **special publications**. All publications are distributed to TB and Chest Specialists, experts in HIV/AIDS, library of Medical/Nursing

Colleges and concerned authorities of SAARC Member States, bilateral partners and interested person who request to supply the same.

13.1. Publications:

1. STC Newsletter
2. SAARC Journal of TB, Lung Diseases and HIV/AIDS
3. Directory of TB Institutions & Specialists in SAARC Member Countries
4. General Information on TB & its Control in SAARC
5. Role of Students in TB Control
6. Role of SAARC TB Centre
7. Role of NGOs in TB Control
8. Role of Private Practitioners and Medical Colleges
9. Articles on Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in the SAARC Region, Vol. I
10. Commercial Sex Workers in SAARC Region
11. Gender Issue in Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS in the SAARC Region
12. TB and HIV/AIDS Co-epidemic in the SAARC Region
13. Articles on TB and HIV/AIDS in the SAARC Region Vol. II
14. SAARC Regional Strategy for TB/HIV Co-infection
15. Gender Differences Among Tuberculosis Patients in National TB Control Programmes with SAARC Countries
16. SAARC Guidelines for Partnership with Schools in Prevention & Control of Tuberculosis
17. SAARC Guidelines for Partnership with Media in Prevention & control of Tuberculosis
18. SAARC Guidelines for Partnership with Pharmacists in Prevention & control of Tuberculosis
19. Epidemiological reports, yearly update :
 - TB update
 - HIV update
20. Different activity reports and research reports

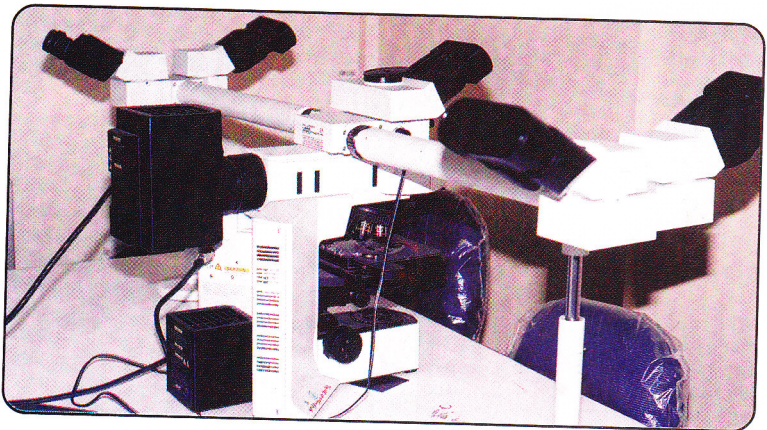
14. TB Museum

A small TB Museum has been established in the Centre.



15. Establishment of SAARC Regional TB Reference Laboratory & TB Lab Network

Laboratory is the backbone of TB control program. Quality lab services reflect the quality of diagnosis. With this notion the Tenth Meeting of the Governing Board of SAARC Tuberculosis Centre (held in Kathmandu on Feb. 27-28, 2001) has identified nine Tuberculosis Laboratories in Member States as National TB Reference Laboratories. Subsequently SAARC Regional TB Reference laboratory has been setup and TB Laboratory Network has been developed.



STC Reference Laboratory

16. Establishment of Epidemiological Networking

Since 1994 STC has been collecting TB related data and preparing regional data. In order to have quality regional reports on TB, HIV/AIDS and TB/HIV co-infection Regional Epidemiological Networking has been developed.

17. Observation of SAARC Awareness Year for TB and HIV/AIDS (Year 2004)

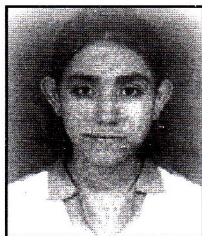
The STC observed the year 2004 as the **SAARC Awareness Year for TB and HIV/AIDS** by organizing different awareness activities at the Regional level

17.1. An audio-visual documentary on advocacy on TB and HIV/AIDS

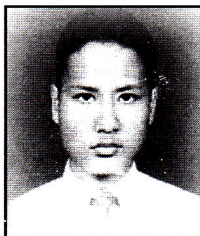
“**Burden of TB & HIV/AIDS in SAARC Member Countries: Success & Future Challenges**” an audio-visual documentary on advocacy on TB and HIV/AIDS related to Member States was prepared and distributed to the Member States. The duration of this CD is 1.2 hours in English version.

17.2. Awareness Programme related to TB and HIV/AIDS control through Essay Competition focusing the issues of TB and HIV/AIDS

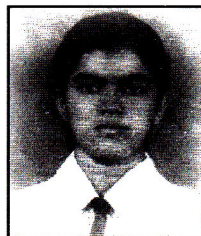
Member States selected **three best essays** written by students of secondary schools on the identified topic “**Role of School Children in Control and Prevention of TB and HIV/AIDS**” and sent to STC. The Fourteenth Meeting of the Governing Board announced the Prizes for first, second and third winners of Essay Competition and also decided to provide shield and certificates to all participants which have been presented to them.



1st Prize
Miss Tanjeen Laila Jhilik
BAF Shaheen College
Bangladesh



2nd Prize
Mr. Abhay Raj Shakya
Palpa Awasiya Secondary School
Nepal



3rd Prize
Wishma J. Samaraweera
Visakha Vidyalaya
Sri Lanka

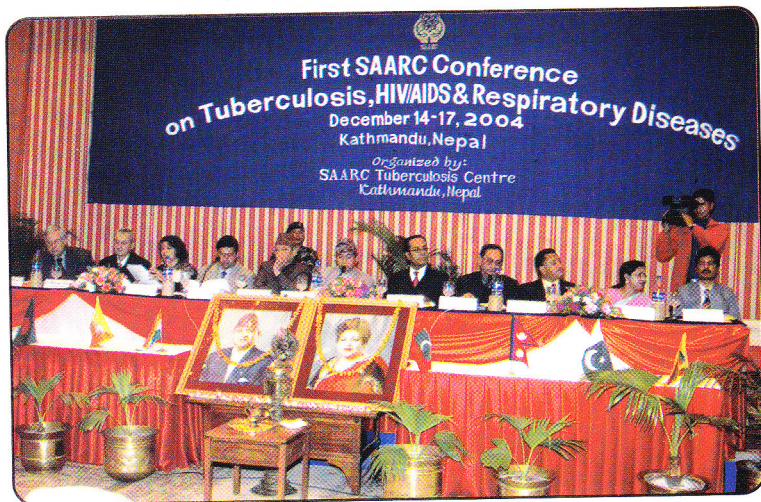
17.3 Special publications regarding SAARC awareness year 2004 for TB and HIV/AIDS in English language as well as in seven national languages.

The Centre has published the English version of special publications on TB and HIV/AIDS. Most of the Member States have translated and published the document in their national languages. The documents have widely been circulated.

First Conference on TB, HIV/AIDS and Respiratory Diseases

STC organized the **First Conference on TB, HIV/AIDS and Respiratory Diseases** in December 14-17, 2004 in Kathmandu, Nepal. Around 600 participants from Member States and other countries participated in the conference.

Besides organizing workshops, seminars, meetings and visits for sharing expertise and experiences, STC organized conference first time in 2004.



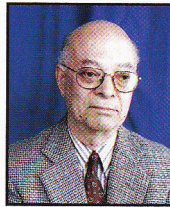
Directors, Deputy Directors and Professionals of the Centre



Dr. K. K. Jha
Director
(Present)



Dr. D. S. Bam
Director
(1995-2004)



Dr. T. M. Shakya
Director
(1992-1995)



Dr. N. G. Amatya
Director
(1991-1992)



Dr. R. M. Piryani
(Pakistan)
Deputy Director
(2003-2006)



Dr. P. Kumar
(India)
Deputy Director
(1994-2002)



Dr. Lochana Shrestha
(Nepal)
Epidemiologist
(Present)



Dr. Md. M. Rahman
(Bangladesh)
Epidemiologist
(2002-2006)



Dr. B. P. Rijal
(Nepal)
Microbiologist
(2002-2005)



Dr. R. M. Samaratunga
(Sri Lanka)
Research Officer
(2002-2003)

Activities organized in SAARC Member States



Meeting organized in Bangladesh
4-6 April 2005



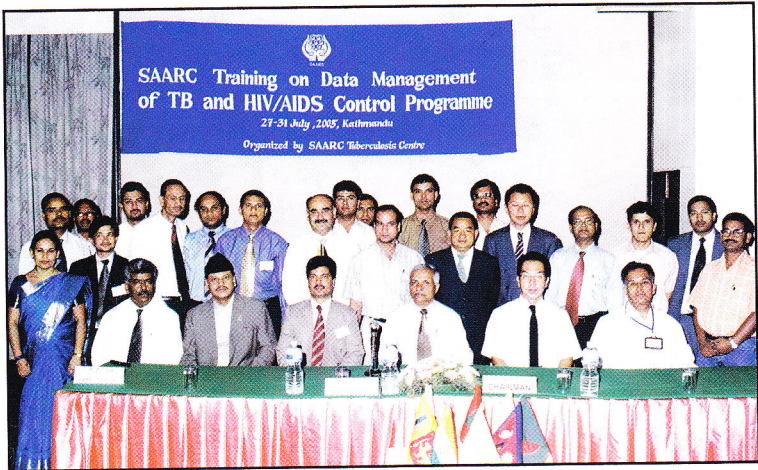
Discussion with Dr. Gado Tshering, (the then Secretary for Health) Director General, Department of Health Services and Dr. Lungten Z. Wangchuk, National TB and Leprosy Control Manager, Bhutan about situation of TB and HIV/AIDS in Bhutan
23-28 May 2005



Workshop on TB/HIV Co-infection in Pune, India
28-31 Dec. 2005



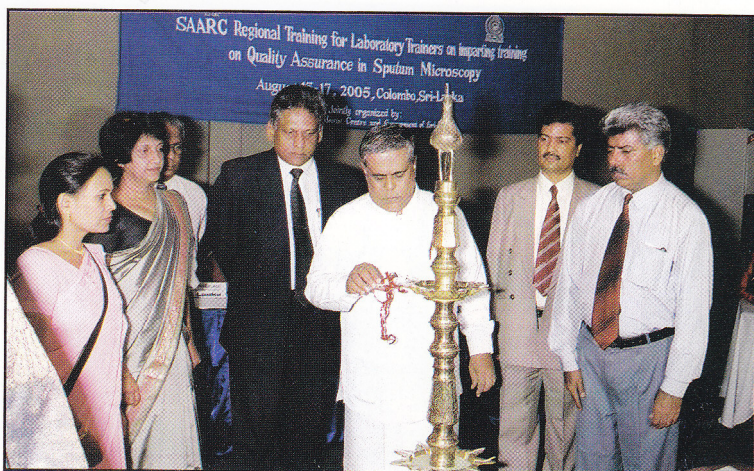
Dr. Ian Smith, the then WHO Medical Officer for NTP Nepal displaying Training Module to the participants at ToT organized in Maldives
28 June - 2 July 1998



Training on Data Management organized in Kathmandu, Nepal
27-31 July 2005



Awareness programme on TB & HIV/AIDS organized in Pakistan
23 Dec. 2005



Hon'ble Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Health Care,
Nutrition & Uva-wellassa Development, **Sri Lanka**
15-17 Aug. 2005



Mr. Ibrahim Shaheem from Maldives, presenting about TB and HIV/AIDS during
First SAARC Conference on TB, HIV/AIDS and Respiratory Diseases

Photographs of other events at the Centre



STC visit of H.E. Mr. Chenkyab Dorji, Secretary General with Director Mr. M. Naseer & other staff from SAARC Secretariat



Dr. Kan Tun WHO Representative to Nepal with Director, STC and Director NTP Nepal



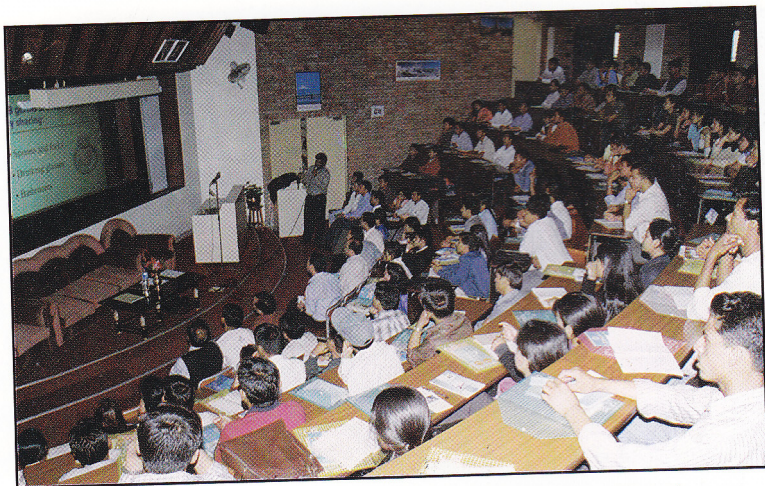
A team of Journalist from PANOS South Asia visited STC on
July 28, 2005



Dr. L. S. Chauhan, NTP Manager, India, Dr. P. Kumar, Director, NTI, Bangalore,
Dr. Salhotra CMO, Central TB Division, New Delhi visited STC on Dec. 9, 2005



His Excellency Mr. Chenkyab Dorji, SAARC Secretary General observing Teaching Microscope at STC Reference Laboratory during his visit to STC



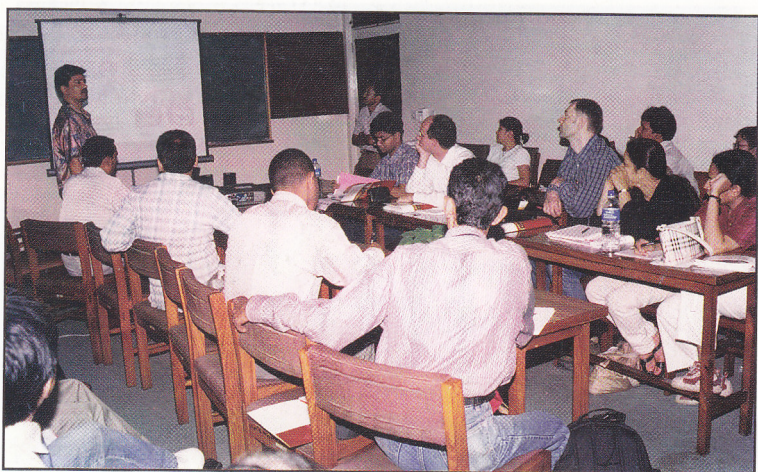
Students from Nepal Commerce College participating in awareness and advocacy programme organized at STC training building



Participants of the interaction programme with Media on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2005 at Birgunj, Nepal



Visitors observing STC exhibition during World TB Day



STC presentation during observation visit by
Journalists from PANOS South Asia



Students of Government Himayat-ul-Islam Girls High School, Hyderabad, Sindh, Pakistan with officials from National TB Control Programme, Pakistan and Provincial TB Control Programme, Sindh during partnership programme with school organized jointly by STC and NTP, Pakistan

DESIGNATED SAARC YEARS

1989	SAARC Year of Combating Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking
1990	SAARC Year of Girl Child
1991	SAARC Year of Shelter
1992	SAARC Year of Environment
1993	SAARC Year of Disabled Persons
1994	SAARC Year of the Youth
1995	SAARC Year of Poverty Eradication
1996	SAARC Year of Literacy
1997	SAARC Year of Participatory Governance
1999	SAARC Year of Biodiversity
2002-2003	SAARC Year of Contribution of Youth to Environment
2004	SAARC Awareness Year for TB and HIV/AIDS
2006	South Asia Tourism Year

SAARC DECADES

1991-2000	SAARC Decade of the Girl Child
2001-2010	SAARC Decade of the Rights of the Child

Symptoms of Tuberculosis

Loss of weight - Fever - Blood in sputum - Cough more than 2 weeks - Chest pain - Loss of appetite

DOTS TB patients should take TB medicines regularly under DOTS

SAARC
SAARC TB & HIV/AIDS Centre (STC)
Thimi, Bhaktapur,
PO Box 9517, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel : 00977-1-6632601, 6632477
Fax : 00977-1-6634379
E-mail: saarctb@mos.com.np
Web: saarctb.com.np

If you have cough for more than 2 weeks, visit nearby DOTS Centre