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Sent: Mon, 12 Jan 2015 04:22:37 -0500
To: Handley, Gray (NIH/NIAID) [E];Meegan, James (NIH/NIAID) [E];Bernabe, Gayle (NIH/NIAID) [E];Rosa, William (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Jan 12 update from Beijing Office
Attachments: Flu_MERS Meeting Agenda V2.docx, Draft Concept_agenda_Ebola_China_Jan 11_2015.docx

Hi,

Here is my first update in 2015.

Flu-MERS meeting: we have made a great deal of progress on this meeting. All speakers but one have confirmed their participation. The agenda is pretty much developed (see the attached) and was sent to Elizabeth to put it on the web. Website for this meeting is up and allows registration online for we have a way to track how many people will attend. All the international speakers (7 from US and Europe, 5 from Hong Kong) have been contacted and CRDF has already contacted the speakers to begin arranged their travels. I have contacted our co-sponsor at NSFC requesting its standard letter for VISA and haven't gotten any response (has been very slow to get any information out of them). CRDF has paid deposit to hold down the hotel rooms for the paid speakers and the fund has been successfully transferred. China CDC has agreed to help with some of the logistics such as collecting abstracts and putting up an abstract book and provide airport picking up for a couple of VIP speakers. The Institute of Microbiology of CAS (George Gao's lab) will be responsible for arranging the travels for the domestic speakers and other meeting logistics. NSFC's funding of 80,000 RMB was finally arrived. I have a meeting tomorrow with the staff at George's office to discuss the logistics. Today I have shared meeting website with our contacts in China. Hopefully we will get a good traffic to the website.

I met with China CDC on Wednesday upon their request. The purpose was they asked me to help them develop an agenda for an international conference on Ebola which will be held in Beijing on March 19-20. So I provided a suggested speaker list with the help of DMID staff and helped them edited the meeting concept and agenda. They agree that I can share the draft with NIAID. Please notice that they haven't reached for the speakers, several of them are from NIAID. (b) (5)

I do prepared back up for them as well.

I sent a request to the Wuhan Institute of Virology for invitation to attend its BSL4 laboratory completion ceremony. I got a message from the contact I have that limited number of international people outside France will be invited to the ceremony as it is the French who helped with the construction of BSL4 lab. I just received a reply that I won't be able to attend the ceremony but will have the opportunity to visit the institute at a later time.

I received a message from ESTH asking the representatives from US Fed agencies to provide information on China's biosecurity. The message says "State's office that deals with biosecurity has sent to Embassy Beijing the email below regarding China's policies, capabilities, and activities related to a range of

biological threats and risks: including infectious diseases, biosecurity, biological weapons, and bio-terrorism.

The National Security Council is seeking Embassy input on the "End State Indicators" spreadsheet (final attachment). If you could review the attached spreadsheet and other documents and reply to me with your comments and suggestions by noon on Monday, January 12, I will send in a consolidated reply for Embassy Beijing. Negative replies (i.e. "nothing to add") are requested."

(b) (5)

Thank you and told to you tonight.

Ping

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