



Media release

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FIFTH GLOBAL DIGITAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT, HONG KONG – GLOBAL COLLABORATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Australian Digital Health Agency has joined digital health leaders from 18 countries, territories and the World Health Organization (WHO) in Hong Kong SAR, on 15-16 October 2019, for the fifth Global Digital Health Partnership Summit (GDHP) to collaborate and share their experiences, and to improve the implementation of digital health services.

GDHP Chair and Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Ms Preeti Sudan said “The fifth summit of the Global Digital Health Partnership has been a pathbreaking event highlighting advances and experiences around the world and the importance of patient centred health care”.

Dr Ramesh Krishnamurthy, Senior Advisor, World Health Organization said “Digital Health interventions are fundamentally changing the way healthcare is delivered. These interventions are most useful when they help countries to advance their sustainable development goals and health coverage for their population. Our partnership provides an extraordinary opportunity for countries to share their best practices to advance their health-related Sustainable Development Goals”.

Australian Digital Health Agency CEO, Tim Kelsey said “The Global Digital Health Partnership provides an important opportunity for deep, transformational engagement on digital health between governments, government agencies and the World Health Organization. The work the partnership has been doing in Interoperability, clinical and consumer engagement and cyber security has provided the Agency with the opportunity to improve our own work plan through providing evidence and use cases which have informed our programs including the development of the National Interoperability Roadmap and the Digital Health Workforce and Education Roadmap”.

It was announced in Hong Kong that the next summit would take place in Lisbon, Portugal in the week commencing 16 March 2020.

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About the Global Digital Health Partnership

The Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) is a collaboration of governments and territories, government agencies and the World Health Organization, formed to support the effective implementation of digital health services. Established in February 2018, the GDHP provides an opportunity for transformational engagement between its participants, who are striving to learn and share best practice and policy that can support their digital health systems. In addition, the GDHP provides an international platform for global collaboration and sharing of evidence to guide the delivery of better digital health services within participant countries.



The Australian Digital Health Agency provided the secretariat services for the first eighteen months of the GDHP. Australia was the host country for the inaugural summit on February 19 and 20, 2018.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, hosted the fourth GDHP Summit in New Delhi and is the current chair and secretariat.

There are currently 31 countries, territories and the World Health Organization participating in the GDHP. Participants in the GDHP include senior digital health officials from: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Estonia, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Nepal, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uganda, Uruguay, Zambia and the World Health Organization.

About the Australian Digital Health Agency

The Agency is tasked with improving health outcomes for all Australians through the delivery of digital healthcare systems, and implementing [Australia's National Digital Health Strategy – Safe, Seamless, and Secure: evolving health and care to meet the needs of modern Australia](#) in collaboration with partners across the community. The Agency is the System Operator of [My Health Record](#), and provides leadership, coordination, and delivery of a collaborative and innovative approach to utilising technology to support and enhance a clinically safe and connected national health system. These improvements will give individuals more control of their health and their health information, and support healthcare providers to deliver informed healthcare through access to current clinical and treatment information. Further information: www.digitalhealth.gov.au.