

RONELLO C. ABILA

Sub-Regional Representative of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia

Dr Ronello C. Abila is the Sub-Regional Representative of the OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia based in Bangkok and also manages the OIE South East Asia Foot and Mouth Disease (SEAFMD) Campaign. He joined the OIE in June 2004 as Regional Coordinator of SEAFMD Campaign, and in September 2007 he was given additional task to manage the OIE/AusAID Programme on Strengthening Veterinary Services in South East Asia until March 2009. In April 2009, he was appointed as the OIE Sub-Regional Representative concurrent with his position as Regional Coordinator of SEAFMD Campaign. He is also the Secretary of the OIE Sub-Commission for FMD Control in South East Asia, the governing body that provides policy and technical guidance to SEAFMD Campaign. Dr Abila has been instrumental in developing the SEAFMD 2020 Roadmap – a strategic document that provides guidance to SEAFMD members in attaining FMD freedom with vaccination by year 2020.

Dr Abila has a wide experience in managing animal disease control programs. Before joining the OIE, he handled various posts in the Philippines' Bureau of Animal Industry as head of the Epidemiology Section, National Veterinary Quarantine Services and Animal Health Division. He was involved in developing the Philippine FMD Control and Eradication Plan in 1995, and introduced the concept of strategic interventions at critical points in 2003 that lead to successful eradication of FMD in the country in 2005.

Dr Abila is a graduate of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from the University of the Philippines and has a Master of Science in Tropical Veterinary Epidemiology from Free University of Berlin, Germany.