



## News

### Talk about "Contractual Arrangement between Principals & Distributors" held on 27th March 2014

The Talk was well attended. Members, after the 4 hour Talk, were better informed on the crucial areas and the terminology used on Contractual Agreements. By then, Mr Kandiah is no stranger to MAPS having spoken on Intellectual Property a few months ago.



There were many questions from the floor and were ably answered by Mr Kandiah who supported his answers with many examples.



There was also short brief by Ms Geetha on the Personal Data Protection Act 2010. After the talk a few feedbacks were given to MAPS via the feedback form. Some interesting feedback include:

Three ideas that you have learned during this seminar

- Creation of own intellectual property data
- Difference of sole & exclusive distributorship and to define clearly
- Sole vs exclusive distributorship
- Retention of confidential information developed by distributor

On the question of "What action would you take at your workplace after this seminar?"

- To check through the distribution agreement and ensure it is in compliance with our company's needs

- Review of current agreements in light of today's talk
- To go through existing agreements with a view to improve the terms & conditions for the benefit of the company

## MAPS 3rd Annual General Meeting

MAPS 3rd Annual General Meeting was held in the Secretariat from 1:00 pm to 4: 15 pm. A total of 16 members participated in the Meeting.

Members were given Reports of MAPS' activities, the various Committees and the Financial Statements for 2013 as well as the expectations and challenges for 2014.

A new Board of Directors was also elected into Office for the next Term of 2 years.



## MPS Strategic Meeting

MAPS was invited to attend the Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society Strategic meeting held from Feb 28 2014 to 2 Mar at Cyberview Resort and Spa. Other organizations attending the event were PhAMA, MOPI and MCPG. YBhg Dato' Eisah Abdul Rahman, Senior Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Ministry of Health was the keynote speaker.





### **Pharmacy Transformation Workshop**

MAPS attended the Pharmacy Transformation Workshop organized by Pharmaceutical Services Division a Hotel Avillion Legacy Melaka from 10 - 11 February. The workshop was organised into four work groups: Benchmarking, Zoning, Corporate Body and Good Marketing Practice. MAPS was involved in the Benchmarking and Good Marketing Practice work groups.

### **Implementation of GST for the Health Services Sector**

This event was held at the Ministry of Health Complex, Putrajaya in the morning of 28 Jan 2014. The main presentation was done by the customs department with the Ministry of Finance chairing the meeting. Representatives from various government bodies such as the Pharmaceutical Services Division, practitioners and industry were involved in this meeting. The three industry associations representing pharmaceuticals, ie MAPS, MOPI and PhAMA were united in voicing our concerns on the implementation of the GST.

A follow up meeting was called the following day hosted by the Pharmaceutical Services Division to discuss our shared concerns. Three submissions will be made separately(one each by the Division, practitioners associations and industry associations) but with one voice to the Ministry of Finance and Customs outlining our recommendations.

### **Dialogue Session between the NPCB and Industry Vaccine Representatives**

The NPCB prepared a draft of Guidance Document and Guidelines for Vaccines Lot Release and called for this dialogue on 22 Jan 2014. MAPS, was invited to participate in this dialogue to enable our feedback and comments to be considered before the finalization of the document and guidelines.

### **2nd Focus Group Discussion on the Listing of Drugs into the Ministry of Health Formulary**

This is a new development and may replace the current blue book listing procedures. Many discussions are being planned with various stakeholders, and all these are currently works-in progress and are confidential. This particular meeting was held at the Pharmaceutical Services Division in Jalan Universiti on 16 Dec 2013. MAPS was privileged to be able to give inputs in this meeting.

## **2nd Technical Meeting of Development and Harmonisation of standards on Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines among OIC Countries**

This event was hosted by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation at Hotel Sama Sama Sepang over two days from 25 - 26th November 2013. The event was facilitated jointly by the Pharmaceutical Services Division and Sirim. The Senior Director of Pharmaceutical Services, Datuk Eishah chaired the event. The meeting saw participation from various OIC members, WHO, practitioners and various industry representatives.



## **Pricing and Reimbursement Workshop**

This event was hosted by the Pharmaceutical Services Department at Avillion Admiral Cove Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan over two days from 11 - 12th November 2013. In this meeting, it was stated that according to the WHO, out-of-pocket expense on health is the second highest expense of the household, with food being the first. The workshop is aimed at supporting equitable access for all and the affordability of health care is an important ingredient in ensuring this accessibility.

Various stakeholders were invited to this event from the various government agencies, practitioners and industry. This is one in a series of workshops and is still work-in-progress, hopefully with an implementable solution in the coming years.





## **Primer in Intellectual Property Rights in the Pharmaceutical Industry**

"On 29th October 2013, Mr P Kandiah of KASS International had the audience captured with his presentation on "Primer in Intellectual Property Rights in the Pharmaceutical Industry".



Under the main headline of "Obtaining Market Exclusivity for Pharmaceutical Drugs", he gave great insights into "Patent Rights, Trademark Rights and Copyrights" and how Companies use these rights to increase and extend their respective market shares and protections.

Mr P Kandiah also explained the issues and challenges relating to TRIPS, Patent Term Restoration, Data Exclusivity, Bolar Exemption and Compulsory Licensing. Before he ended the Talk, he shared on the latest Court challenges relating to Patent Protection by the MNCs".

The discussions that followed, after each topic, were lively and relevant. Many walked away with better understanding, and wiser, on the issues pertaining to the Intellectual Properties



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