

Dear Colleagues

It has been my honor to host the 2004 and 2005 Pacific Health Summits for Sustainable Disaster Management.

During this two-year series of world regional meetings, it has been my good fortune to work in partnership with much of the public health leadership of the Pacific basin. I've witnessed thoughtful consideration, spirited discussions, and collaborative teamwork as these leaders developed the Declaration of the 2004 Pacific Health Summit and went on to author the Concept Papers of the 2005 Pacific Health Summit.

The Concept Papers of the 2005 Pacific Health Summit represent the culmination of over five years of work by the CDC Pacific Emergency Health Initiative (PEHI) in its mission to improve emergency health preparedness and response in the region.

The 2005 Summit Concept Papers were authored by representatives of the public health leadership of 19 nations, as well as 16 international organizations. These documents represent an important precedent as the world's first integrated, self-determined, and region-wide strategy for prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery from health emergencies.

These Concept Papers represent a standardized presentation of 16 brief proposals for pilot projects that would implement one or more of the 32 objectives of

the 2004 Pacific Health Summit. The purpose of the concept papers is to provide for potential donors and partners a summary of projects that were mutually agreed upon by health leaders at the 2005 Pacific Health Summit. Interested parties are then encouraged to contact the designated project leads directly to solicit further information or place a request for proposal.

Please join me in consideration of these worthy and well-designed Concept Papers and in my gratitude to the public health leaders of the Pacific for achieving this important world benchmark towards sustainable development in the world's most disaster-prone region.

With warm regards,

Mark Keim, MD
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention