April 10, 2012

**4rd International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases**

**Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, September 6-7, 2012**

Dear friends,

 The purpose of this Symposium is to introduce Mongolians and other international researchers to each other such that we might increase scientific exchange between countries. I am very pleased you are interested in joining us. We each have specific scientific skills to share. My goal is to help you meet the right people in Mongolia who would benefit from your knowledge and resources.

The Mongolian people are very unique, very gracious, and the rural people live very close to their animals. The infectious disease research needs and our opportunities in Mongolia are many. You will find your Mongolian colleagues very willing to collaborate in research and in the exchange of trainees. These scientific meetings are more than a sharing of ideas. They have led to a number of new research project collaborations, the exchange of multiple US public health graduate students, and the training of 14 Mongolian professional during the period 2008 to 2012.

This symposium will be an important event in Mongolia. Foreign scientists will meet and closely interact with numerous national Mongolian leaders in human and animal health. We will be privileged to tour their national infectious disease institutions. In many ways those of us who attend will be ambassadors for our countries. I suspect some of the best interaction will occur outside of the didactic sessions. You will find opportunities to engage your Mongolian friends at meals, during breaks, and while we are taking tours or excursions.

Unfortunately, we do not have programmed funding for US participation in this symposium. Your will need to find funding for air travel, food, hotel, and excursion activities.

However, we do not anticipate any Symposium fees as a number of sponsors have been found. Our Mongolian colleagues will provide our local transportation. The Mongolian Ministry of Health in their multiple conference rooms in Ulaanbaatar.

Thank you for your interest in joining us in this trip. You are going to really enjoy the visit! Mongolian hospitality is legendary, their culture is wonderfully fascinating, and their beautiful open countryside is incredibly vast and pristine.

If you can join us…below are some response needs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Action** |
| ASAP | Symposium Registration Form and Travel Release and Waiver Form scanned and emailed to Dr. Ulziimaa at ulzima\_d@yahoo.com **Ms.Bayarmaa at** chin\_ba88@yahoo.com, and Greg Gray at gcgray@phhp.ufl.edu |
| August 20th 2012 | Abstracts and CVs are to be emailed ulzima\_d@yahoo.com , chin\_ba88@yahoo.com and gcgray@phhp.ufl.edu |

My best,

Greg

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA

Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions and Director, Global Pathogens Laboratory, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

gcgray@phhp.ufl.edu, tel 352-273-9449/9188

**Organizers:**

**N. Khurelbaatar, MD, PhD**, Minister of Health, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
**Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA,** Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA
**D. Gonchigsuren MD, PhD** Head Department of Medical care policy implementation and coordination, Ministry of Health, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Participants from Mongolia:**

**N. Khurelbaatar**, MD, PhD - Minister of Health

**D. Gonchigsuren** MD, PhD – Director, Department of Medical Care Policy Implementation and Coordination, Ministry of Health

**Ch. Bayarmaa** – Medical Officer, Department of Medical Care Policy Implementation and Coordination, Ministry of Health

**D. Narangerel** - Officer in Charge of Policy Coordination for Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases, Ministry of Health

**G. Surenkhand** MD, PhD - Deputy Director, National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Z. Batsukh** DVM, PhD, ScD - Vice Director and Chief Veterinary Officer, Department of Veterinary and Animal Breeding

**D. Tserennorov** MD, PhD - Deputy Director, Research and Foreign Relations, Center of Infectious Diseases with Natural Foci

**J. Oyunbileg** PhD - Director of Public Health Institute, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**B. Tsatsralt- Od** MD, PhD - Deputy Director, National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Ch. Urtnasan** MD - National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**R. Oyungerel** MD, PhD - National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**J. Bayarsaikhan** MPH - National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**D. Ulziimaa** MD - National Center for Communicable Diseases, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Tentative Participants from outside of Mongolia:**

**Dennis Bente, DVM, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX, USA

**Jon Cohen,** Science Reporter, Science Magazine, Washington, DC, USA

**Ann Cullinane, DVM, PhD**, Head of Virology, Irish Equine Centre, University of Limerick, Johnstown, Ireland

**Robert V. Gibbons, MD, MPH**, Head, Department of Virology, Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangkok, Thailand

**Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, FIDSA**, Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA
**Maureen M. Goodenow, PhD,** Stephany W. Holloway University Chair for AIDS Research Professor, Pathology, Immunology, and Laboratory Medicine Director, Center for Research in Pediatric Immune Deficiency, College of Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA

**Maureen T. Long, DVM, PhD, DACVIM**, Associate Professor, Department of Infectious Diseases and Pathology College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA

**Kay Mereish, DVM,** US Department of Defense, Washington, DC, USA

**Juergen A. Richt, DVM, PhD**, Regents Distinguished Professor, Kansas State University College ofVeterinary Medicine, Manhattan, Kansas, USA
**Randal J. Schoepp, PhD**, Chief, Applied Diagnostics Branch, US Army Medical Research Institute

of Infectious Diseases, Diagnostic Systems Division, Fort Detrick, MD, USA

**Ellen Silbergeld, PhD, Professor**, Environmental Health Sciences, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, USA

**Douglas M. Watts, MS, PhD**, Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, Executive Director of Veterinary Services and Institutional Biosafety, Co-Director of Infectious Disease and Immunology

Border Biomedical Research Center, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX, USA

**Tentative Hotel for International Visitors**

Chinggis Khan Hotel, Tokyo Street - 10, Ulaanbaatar - 49, Mongolia. Tel: (976) 11-313380

<http://www.chinggis-hotel.com/>

**Meeting Site**

Chinggis Khan Hotel

**Weather**

Mongolia’s has great weather fluctuations. The September time frame was chosen for its generally warm weather. Travelers would be wise to carry rain protection. However, precipitation is relatively rare. Weather condition web sites: http://www.wunderground.com/global/stations/44292.html

**Travel Details**

While the cost of food, souvenirs, and housing in Mongolia is relatively inexpensive, the roundtrip flights from the United States to [Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia’s capital)](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.ragusatour.mn/image/distination/bujig1.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.ragusatour.mn/destination/ulaanbaatar.php&h=400&w=322&sz=7&hl=en&start=15&um=1&tbnid=icLv5r4sJRr8EM:&tbnh=124&tbnw=100&prev=/images%3Fq%3D%252) will cost from ~$1700 to ~$2,700 (duration 22 to 30 hrs). [Orbitz](http://www.orbitz.com/), [Expedia](http://www.expedia.com/daily/home/), or other travel search engines can identify your various flight options.

Ulaanbaatar is 12-13 hrs ahead of US Central Standard time. They do not use daylight savings time.

Visas are not required for US citizens who plan to stay in Mongolia for 30 days or less. Other non-United States travelers may be required to acquire visas.

A valid US passport that will not expire in the next 6 months is required to enter Mongolia.

Flights arrive daily in Ulaanbaatar (ULN) from Seoul, Korea (ICN), and Beijing China (PEK) via [Korean Air](http://www.koreanair.com/), [Air China](http://airchina.mn/en/index.html), and [Miat Airlines](http://miat.com/web/index.php). No visas are required to transit through these airports. We do not recommend flying through Moscow.

We recommend that you give yourself at least 12 hours to adjust to the time change before planning to attend meeting activities. Note that US participants will lose 12 hours so carefully check the day and time of your arrival before you finalize travel itineraries.

No special vaccines are required to enter Mongolia but travelers would be wise to have visited a travel medicine clinic to have their vaccinations reviewed and to carry an assortment of travel medications.

**News from Mongolia**

[UB Post](http://ubpost.mongolnews.mn/) – online English-language newspaper, operated by the state press agency Montsame.

[Mongolia Today](http://www.mongoliatoday.com/) - Online magazine covering Mongolian culture and social life, and providing useful

information for tourists.

**Emergency Points of Contact**

D. Ulziimaa MD, National Center for Communicable Diseases - Tel: +976- 88004251

**Currency**

Most financial transactions outside of the hotel are made in Mongolian Tugriks. The US dollar has been rising in value and as of March 25 one US Dollar = 1,392 Mongolian Tugrik.

**Excursions**

A visit to Mongolia is not complete without a visit to Mongolia’s beautifully unique countryside. Ninety

percent of Mongolia is undeveloped and open to a traditional nomadic herder’s lifestyle. You cannot

easily appreciate this lifestyle where domestic horses, sheep, cattle, and goats greatly outnumber man unless you see it up close. Photos:

http://www.galenfrysinger.com/mongolian\_nomads.htm

**Post-Symposium Optional Excursions**

This year our guests have organized several interesting excursions. Please address questions to Dr. Ulziimaa ulzima\_d@yahoo.com or **Ms.Bayarmaa** at chin\_ba88@yahoo.com

**EXCURSIONS**

**Excursion A (1 day)**

Visit the Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue Complex and 13th Century National Park Tour. This excursion is designed particularly for first time visitors to Mongolia. It will introduce visitors to Mongolia’s beautiful countryside and also review a bit of Mongolia’s rich history.

Start time: 10AM

* Depart Chinggis Khaan Khaan Hotel and drive 75 mins to the 13th Century complex /to Greeting soldiers of beat /
* Visit the Postal Relay Station – Try on warrior attire for photographs
* Visit the Craftmen’s Camp – Learn about ancient Mongolian craftsmanship
* Visit the Educational Camp – Learn about Mongolian ancient script
* Visit the Shaman’s Camp – Learn about shaman’s rituals, clothing, and dwelling
* Visit the Herdsmen’s Camp - Visit a Mongolian family of 13th century
* Lunch at the 13th Century Camp?
* Horse and camel riding?

Web site information about the tourist sites but we will not use these tourist agencies:

<http://www.mongoliatravelguide.mn/attraction/13th_century_national_park>

<http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/regions/chinggis-khaan-statue-complex.shtml>

<http://www.discovermongolia.mn/tours/Short_day_tours/1_day_13th_century_live_museum.html>

**Excursion B (1 day)**

Visit the National Museum of Mongolian History, [t[he Zanabazar Museum of Fine Art](http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/ulaanbaatar-museum-of-fine-art.shtml),](http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/national_modern_art_gallery.shtml) and shop at the National Department Store

Web site information about the tourist sites but we will not use these tourist agencies

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/sights/museum/national-museum-mongolian>

<http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/ulaanbaatar_museum.shtml>

<http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/ulaanbaatar_art_galleries.shtml>

**Excursion C (2 days)**

Visit the Hustai National Park, see Mongolia’s wild Przewalski's **(**Takhi) horses, and stay in a ger camp:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khustain_Nuruu_National_Park>
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Przewalski's\_horse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Przewalski%27s_horse)

<http://www.hustai.mn/index.php?pageID=53&mid=102> (see video)

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khustain_Nuruu_National_Park>

<http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/regions/hustain-nuruu-nature-reserve.shtml>

Organizations that cater to foreign travelers in Mongolia:

http://www.mongolian-ways.com/excursions.htm

http://www.nomads.mn/2004-itineraries/highlights-of-mongolia.html

http://www.bluemongolia.com/index.html

<http://www.selenatravel.com/mongolia_tour.html>

More Information about Mongolia and Genghis Khan:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongolia>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genghis_Khan>

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/sights/museum/national-museum-mongolian>

**Facts about Mongolia**

* There are more than ten times as many animals as people in Mongolia, one of the world’s most

sparsely populated countries, where 2.8 million people live in a territory about half the size of Europe.

* Some 30 million sheep, goats, horses, yaks, and other animals graze on vast pasturelands covering almost four fifths of the country.
* Life in sparsely populated Mongolia has recently become more urbanized. Nearly half of the people live in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and in other provincial centers. Semi-nomadic life still predominates in the countryside, but settled agricultural communities are becoming more common.
* Mongolia's birth rate is estimated at 19 births/1000 people (2006). About two-thirds of the total population is under age 30, 28.5% of whom are under 14.
* Livestock is the main livelihood and source of wealth in Mongolia. The country's economy substantially depends on the production and development of this sector.
* Mongolians are traditionally nomadic people. Many live in close contact with their animals (chiefly cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and camels). This close human-animal contact facilitates the transmission of numerous zoonotic diseases including: brucellosis, campylobacter infections, rabies, plague, *Echinococcus granulosis* infections*,* anthrax, and tularemia.[1]
* Mongolia is home to a number of serious livestock diseases, such as foot-and-mouth disease, glanders, and pasteurellosis, which cause disease in man, but have a much greater impact upon

national economies.[2]

Derived from:

http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2779.htm

http://www.ub-mongolia.mn/facts-for-the-visitors/about-mongolia/mongolia-cia-factbook.html

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol9no12/02-0520.htm

**References**

1. Ebright JR, Altantsetseg T and Oyungerel R. Emerging infectious diseases in Mongolia. Emerg Infect Dis 2003;9:1509-15.

2. Odontsetseg N, Mweene AS and Kida H. Viral and bacterial diseases in livestock in Mongolia. Jpn J Vet Res 2005;52:151-62.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

**4rd International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases**

**Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, September 6-7, 2012**

**Abstract and Curriculum Vita**

We plan to print abstracts in a symposium abstract book. We ask all participants who seek to present their work to submit an abstract. Unsolicited abstracts will be considered for poster presentation.

We ask that participants send their curriculum vitae and abstract(s) via e-mail to

chin\_ba88@yahoo.com, ulzima\_d@yahoo.com, and gcgray@phhp.ufl.edu no later than **August 30th, 2012**. Abstract should be written in English using Microsoft Word and a Times New Roman

size 12 font.

**1. Title**

The title should be brief, written in capital letters, and clearly describe the nature of the presentation.

**2. Authors**

After the title please type and underline the initials and last names of the authors. Type the presenting author first. Do not include degrees or title. Do not invert names.

**3. Affiliations**

After the list of authors, type the affiliation for each. Give only the name of the institution, city, state/province, and country.

**4. Text**

On the line below affiliation, use double-line spacing between the affiliation and text. Do not indent the title of the paragraphs. The text should be typed using single spacing throughout. Standard abbreviations may be used without definition. Other abbreviations must be placed in parentheses after the full word when mentioned in the body of the abstract. The abstract text should not exceed 600 words.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

**Symposium Registration Form**

4rd International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia September 6-7, 2012

Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH

Professor and Chair

Department of Environmental and Global Health

College of Public Health and Health Professions

Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (enter the name you wish to use in your accommodation reservations) plan to attend the activities below (add check marks as appropriate).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Activity** |
|  | Please reserve a hotel room for me in Ulaanbaatar at the Chinggis Khaan Hotel (<http://www.chinggis-hotel.com/main/index.php>) for the nights before the activities I plan to attend below, estimated cost with breakfast $105/night  |
|  | Excursion A (1 day) – Visit the Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue Complex and 13th Century National Park Tour. Please hold a seat for me on the bus. Cost will be $\_\_\_\_\_ and payment will be received at meeting registration.  |
|  | Excursion B (1 day) – National Museum of Mongolian History, [t[he Zanabazar Museum of Fine Art](http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/ulaanbaatar-museum-of-fine-art.shtml),](http://www.legendtour.ru/eng/mongolia/ulaanbaatar/national_modern_art_gallery.shtml) and shop at the National Department Store in Ulaanbaatar. Cost will be $\_\_\_\_\_ and payment will be received at meeting registration.  |
|  | Excursion C (2 days) – Visit the Hustai National Park, see Mongolia’s wild Przewalski's **(**Takhi) horses, and stay in a ger camp. Cost will be $\_\_\_\_\_ and payment will be received at meeting registration.  |

I understand you have no funding support for me to attend this meeting. Please reserve accommodations for me for the following time period:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Estimated arrival date and time** | **Estimated departure date and time** |
|  |  |

Later I will forward my flight arrival and departure schedule such that you might pick me up from and take me to the airport.

|  |
| --- |
| We need this form and travel release/waiver for each attendee. **Enter your additional comments below** (e.g. I wish to room with a specific person or I want to visit an institution or I want to find a Mongolian scientist interest in hepatitis C research, etc.)  |
|  |

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Travel Release and Waiver**

4thrd International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases

Ulaanbaatar Mongolia September 6-7, 2012 and excursions

The parties to this release are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (enter your name as the “participant”), the scientific planning committee (Drs N. Khurelbaatar MD, PhD, and Gregory C. Gray, MD,MPH), and the University of Florida.

I have chosen to participate in the 4th International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases during September 2012. I am a voluntary participant in this program. I understand that while considerable effort will be made to provide for my safety during the symposium and subsequent organized excursions (hereafter “Program”), that such travel may be dangerous and that the scientific planning committee and University of Florida cannot guarantee my safety.

I am apprised to be guided by the travel advisories posted by the United States Department of State. (web site http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel\_1744.html)

In consideration of my voluntary involvement in this Program, I agree that I, and my heirs, any executors, administrators, employers, agents, representatives, insurers and attorneys, hereby release and discharge the scientific planning committee and the University of Florida, its trustees, officers, faculty, employees, agents and representatives (hereafter “released parties”) from any and all claims that may arise from any cause whatsoever, including any negligent act or omission by the released parties.

I further release and discharge the released parties from responsibility for any accident, illness, injury, loss or damage to personal property or any other consequence arising or resulting directly or indirectly from my participation in the Program.

I recognize and agree that the released parties assume no responsibility for any liability, damage or injury that may be caused by my negligence or willful acts committed related to or during participation in the Program, or for any liability, damage or injury caused by the intentional or negligent acts or omissions of any other participant in the Program, or caused by any other person.

I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the released parties from any loss or liability whatsoever including reasonable attorneys' fees, caused by any act or omission of Student resulting from direct or indirect participation in the Program.

I agree to obey all rules, regulations, and laws of the respective countries to be visited, and all travel regulations, or by any associated institutions or organizations of the United States’ government.

I attest that I am physically capable of participating and have no known health restrictions that might jeopardize my safety or health or the safety or health of others during the Program.

I attest that I will be solely responsible for payment in full of all costs of medical care I may receive while overseas.

It is understood and agreed that if any provision of this Release or the application thereof is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Release which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications and to this end the provisions of this Release are declared severable.

This Release shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of Iowa. The venue for any action arising out of this Agreement shall be the Johnson County, State of Iowa. The language of all parts of this Release shall in all cases be construed as a whole, according to its fair meaning, and not strictly for or against any party.

This Release is the only, sole, entire and complete agreement of the parties relating in any way to this subject matter. No statements, promises or representations have been made by any party to any other, or relied upon, and no consideration has been offered, promised other than as may be expressly provided herein. This Release supersedes any earlier written or oral understandings or agreements between the parties.

I acknowledge that I have read this Release and that I understand its meaning and effect.

Participant’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date (MM/DD/YY): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_