Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
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The Five Strategic Drivers

Population Based Disease Prevention

Centre for Health Protection

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Adopting International Best Practices

IT as Health Protection Tool

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Emergency Response

Inter-departmental Coordination

➢ HWFB to play a more proactive role in coordinating inter-departmental and inter-sectoral efforts
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➢ Inter-departmental Action Co-ordinating Committee to examine collective preparedness for a possible return of SARS

Cross-sectoral Coordination

➢ Inter-departmental Task Force to follow up the recommendations of the SARS Expert Committee

➢ A Monitoring Committee to oversee the progress of implementation of the SARS Expert Committee's recommendations

➢ Enlisted the support of academic, business and voluntary sectors

International Best Practices

➤ Institutionalised the epidemic intelligence exchange and experience sharing with other health authorities (e.g. WHO, Mainland and US CDC)
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➤ Forging strategic alliances with overseas health protection agencies (eg, UK's HPA)
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Centre for Health Protection (CHP)
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➢ Launched on 1 June

➢ A multi-disciplinary workforce comprising medical professionals, police officers, administrative officers, etc.
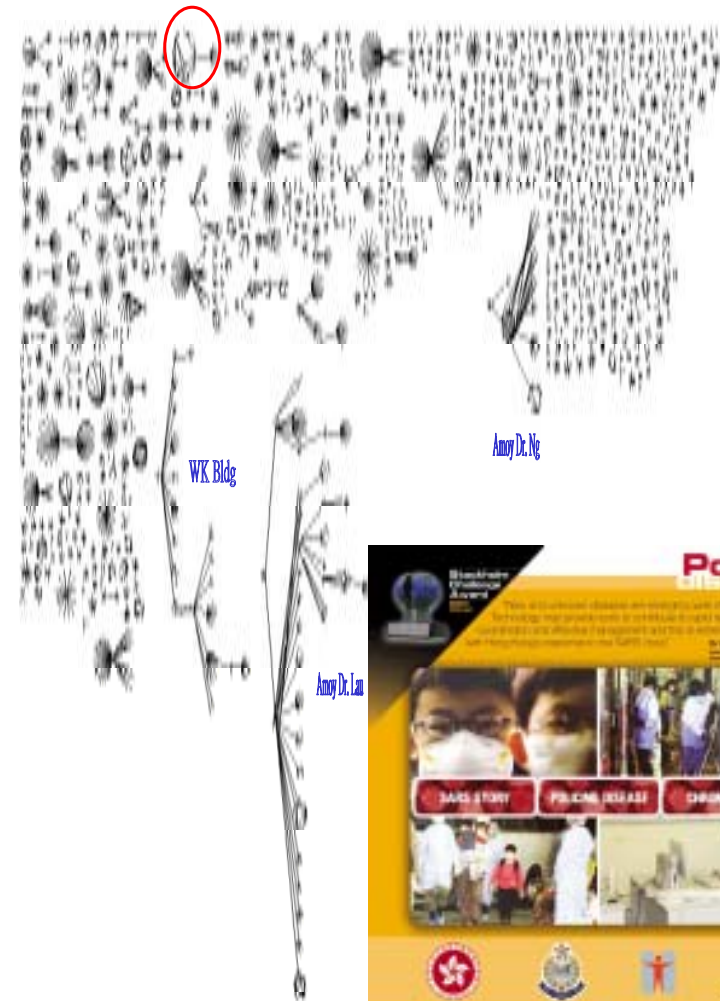
➢ To become a linchpin of our public health infrastructure

IT as a Health Protection Tool

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> Marriage of HA/DH's databases with Police's criminal tracking system during SARS outbreak

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> Recently won the Stockholm Challenge Award 2004
2004

IT as a Crisis Management Tool

➢ "New and unknown diseases are emerging quite often … Information Technology may provide tools to contribute to rapid response of coordination and effective management and this is extremely well illustrated with Hong Kong's response to the SARS crisis"
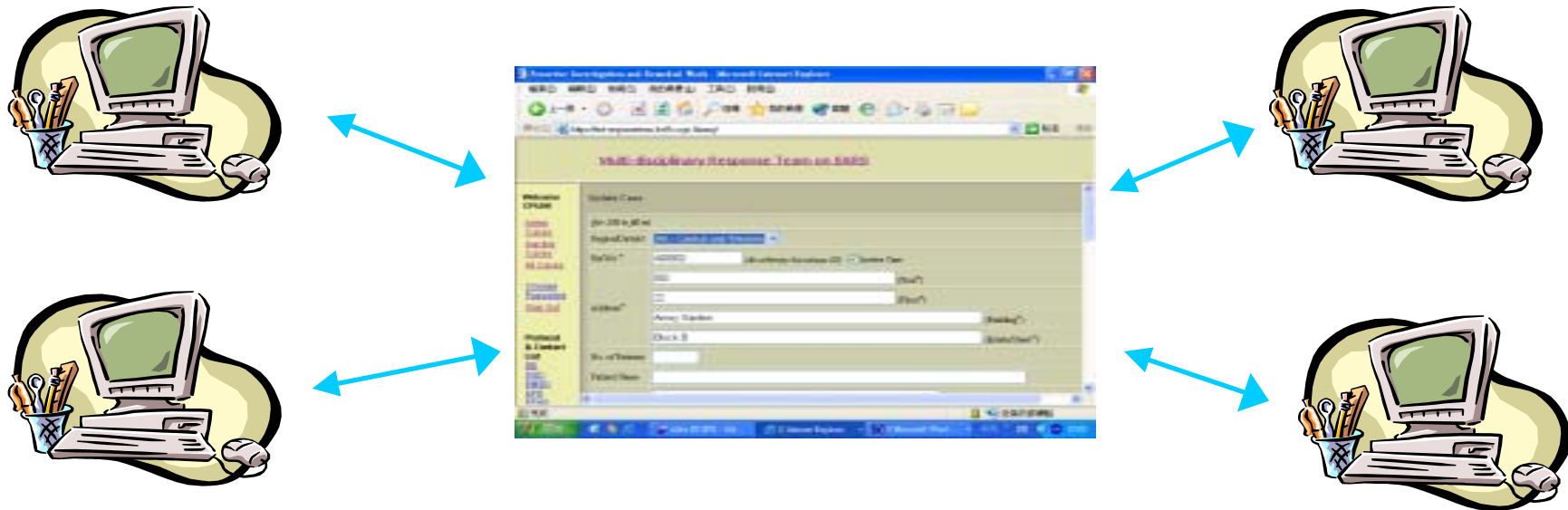

Dr Regis Cabral
Lead Jury Member at
Stockholm Challenge Award 2004

2004

IT for Better Surveillance and Prevention

➢ Web-based Disease Reporting System launched in June 2004
    2004　6

➢ Next milestone "Communicable Disease Information System"
            "　　　　　　　"

Emergency Response

➢ An overall contingency mechanism

➢ Detailed contingency plans prepared by over 40 departments and agencies

➢ Over 50 drills in the hospital and community settings

➢ A multi-party drill with overseas observers this autumn

Lessons Learned from SARS

- Public health infrastructure (CHP, isolation wards, etc.)
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- Infectious disease Notification Mechanism with Mainland

- Collaboration with international community

- Population-based prevention and vigilance

- Surveillance & data management

- Command Structure

- Infection control in health care setting

Lessons Learned from SARS

- Contingency planning
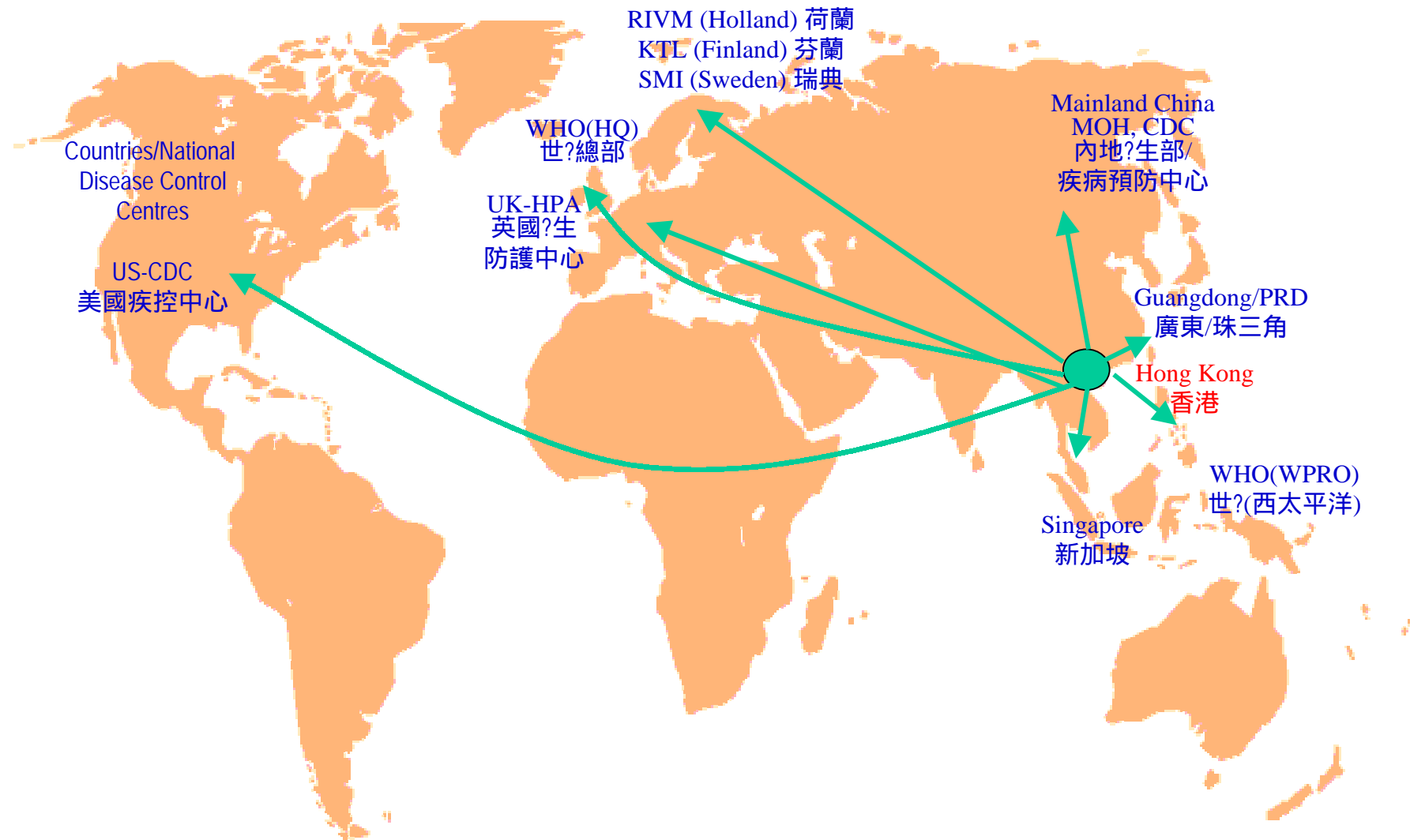
- Cross-sectoral emergence response

- Risk communication

- Surge capacity

- Training

- After-care for SARS victims/families

- Partnership with academia private practitioners, NGOs, etc.

Hong Kong as a Safe City

Thank You!!