Board
Agenda Item 8
Global Digital Health Partnership Summit and International Digital Health Symposium

Meeting: 15 February 2018

RECOMMENDATION
That the members note the planning details and arrangements in place to deliver the Global Digital Health Partnership Summit and the International Digital Health Symposium.

PURPOSE
The purpose of this paper is to update Board Members on the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) Summit in Canberra on 19 to 20 February 2018 and the International Digital Health Symposium in Sydney on Wednesday, 21 February 2018.

BACKGROUND
A function of Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency), as defined under Part 2, Section 9(g) of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Establishing the Australian Digital Health Agency) Rule 2016, is to liaise and cooperate with overseas and international bodies on matters relating to digital health. To support this function in an efficient and economical way, the Agency has been working closely with a number of foreign governments to establish the GDHP.

The GDHP is a coalition of digital health experts committed to supporting governments embed and use digital health as a key part of health service transformation. In pursuit of this goal the GDHP provides a forum for experts to collaborate and develop initiatives that support the implementation of digital health services and technologies.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES
Global Digital Health Partnership Summit — 19 to 20 February 2018

To date the Agency has confirmed that 13 governments and the World Health Organization (WHO) are sending senior delegations to the Global Digital Health Partnership Summit (the Summit) meeting in Canberra. Delegations include: the United States (US), Canada, the United Kingdom (UK), India, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Hong Kong, China, Sweden, New Zealand, Indonesia, Italy and the WHO.
Official activities will commence with a dinner at Old Parliament House in Canberra on Sunday, 18 February 2018. The Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health, the Hon Ken Wyatt MP, will officially welcome the delegates to the Summit. The dinner will be sponsored by Accenture at no cost to the Agency.

The Summit will commence on Monday, 19 February 2018, with a welcome to country by an aboriginal elder, followed by an introduction to the Australian health system, by the Secretary of the Department of Health, Ms Glenys Beauchamp PSM.

The Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP (the Minister), will formally open the Summit after lunch on day one. An official photograph will be taken with the Minister.

A dinner will be held on Monday, 19 February 2018. The Minister for Cyber Security, the Hon Angus Taylor MP, has been invited to host the dinner. The dinner will be sponsored by PwC Australia at no cost to the Agency, with Mr Richard Royle providing an insight to delegates on the Australian journey in digital health.

The GDHP two day policy Summit discussions will focus on the following policy themes as agreed by the Summit participants:

- interoperability;
- cyber security;
- policy environments;
- engaging consumer and clinicians; and
- evidence and evaluation.

At the conclusion of the Summit on Tuesday, 20 February 2018, the delegation will be offered coach transport to Sydney in order to attend the International Digital Health Symposium on Wednesday, 21 February 2018.

International Digital Health Symposium — Wednesday, 21 February 2018

The Agency has received a strong response to invitations to attend the International Digital Health Symposium (the Symposium), which will be held at the John Niland ScenTia Building, University of New South Wales (UNSW)—Sydney, Kensington Campus. Approximately 250 participants are expected. The Symposium will be opened by the Minister for Human Services, the Hon Michael Keenan MP.

The Agency has endeavoured to ensure gender and cultural diversity in the speakers and invitees for the Symposium. Keynote speakers and panellists who have been highlighted in communications to invited guests include:

- **Dr Anna Nilsson Vindefjärd**  
  Founder and Secretary General of Research, Sweden

- **Dr Bastian M Seidel**  
  President, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

- **Bruce Greenstein**  
  Chief Technology Officer, US Department of Health and Human Services

- **Prof Christine Bennett AO**  
  Dean, School of Medicine, Sydney, The University of Notre Dame Australia

- **Prof Claire Jackson**  
  Director, Centre for Health System, Reform and Integration, University of Queensland

- **Dr David Peiris**  
  Director, Health Systems Science, Office of the Chief Scientist, The George Institute for Global Health
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- **Dr Devi Shetty**  
  Cardiac Surgeon and Founder of Narayana Health, India
- **Emma Hossack**  
  President, Medical Software Industry Association
- **Prof Ian Jacobs**  
  Vice-Chancellor, UNSW Sydney
- **John Chen**  
  Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Blackberry
- **Dr Louise Schaper**  
  Chief Executive Officer, Health Informatics Society of Australia
- **Michael Green**  
  President and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Health Infoway
- **Noel Gordon**  
  Chairman of NHS Digital (Health and Social Care Information Centre), Chairman of Healthcare UK Advisory Board, non-executive director of NHS England
- **Dr Ramesh S. Krishnamurthy**  
  Senior Advisor, World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland
- **Prof Robyn Norton AO**  
  Co-founder and Principal Director, The George Institute for Global Health
- **Shelagh Maloney**  
  Vice President, Consumer Health, Communications and Evaluation Services, Canada Health Infoway
- **Prof Trish Williams**  
  Cisco Chair, Professor of Digital Health Systems at Flinders University in South Australia, and co-director of Flinders Digital Health Research Centre

The Symposium is being hosted by The George Institute for Global Health (the George Institute) at no cost to the Agency. The George Institute and UNSW have agreed to host the Symposium with no profit going to them. The George Institute has received sponsorship from Australia Post, Telstra Health, Ernst & Young, Oracle, Microsoft and Adobe to offset the cost of the Symposium.

The Agency has worked closely with UNSW and the George Institute to ensure a broad speaker list from across all Australian Universities have been confirmed, without favour to UNSW or the George Institute.

**Global Digital Health Partnership Governance**

The Agency has agreed to host the secretariat function of the GDHP for the first 12 months of operation. Participants at the Summit will be agreeing the draft Terms of Reference for the GDHP and ongoing secretariat support. Early conversations with the WHO has indicated they have a strong interest in taking over this function in 2019.

Delegations of the GDHP are expected to cover their own costs in attending the GDHP.

**Interdepartmental working committee**

An interdepartmental working committee has been established to support Australia to host the first meeting of the GDHP with members from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Austrade, the Department of Health (Health) and Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.
Health has played a key role in enabling official bilateral communications with each GDHP country, and in supporting the inclusion of the GDHP in a number of intercountry agreements and memorandums of understanding. Support from DFAT has been critical in offering in-country liaisons in each Australian foreign post.

The Agency’s partnership with Austrade has continued to strengthen, with Austrade providing a leadership role in supporting the Agency’s industry engagement in organising the Symposium. Austrade has provided strong input into the Symposium agenda and supports our engagement with key Australian businesses participating in the Symposium.

**Establishing a Global Digital Health Partnership Advisory Committee**

A number of delegates in the GDHP have raised a desire for a vehicle to engage with industry and academia in the GDHP work plan. The GDHP will consider during the Summit establishing an advisory committee with industry and research leaders to support this need.

The advisory committee would support the GDHP Board in the identification of issues and priorities for activities and positions undertaken by the members. The advisory committee would achieve this by participating in the planning, prioritisation, implementation and evaluation of the GDHP’s plan.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

The Agency has agreed to fund secretariat costs for the GDHP for the first 12 months as well as the administrative costs of hosting the inaugural summit in Canberra. It is anticipated the total cost of this commitment will not exceed $250,000 which has been budgeted from the Agency’s current work plan.

Sponsorship from various organisations for components of the GDHP is contributing to managing the costs of the event.

**LEVEL OF RISK**

Low.

**PRIORITY AREA OR STRATEGIC INITIATIVE**

This work plan activity supports the statutory function of the Agency to consult and collaborate internationally on digital health.

**ACTION OFFICER**

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Clinical Professor Meredith Makeham</th>
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<td>Chief Medical Officer</td>
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**CLEARED BY**

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<th>Name</th>
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**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.