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NHCO

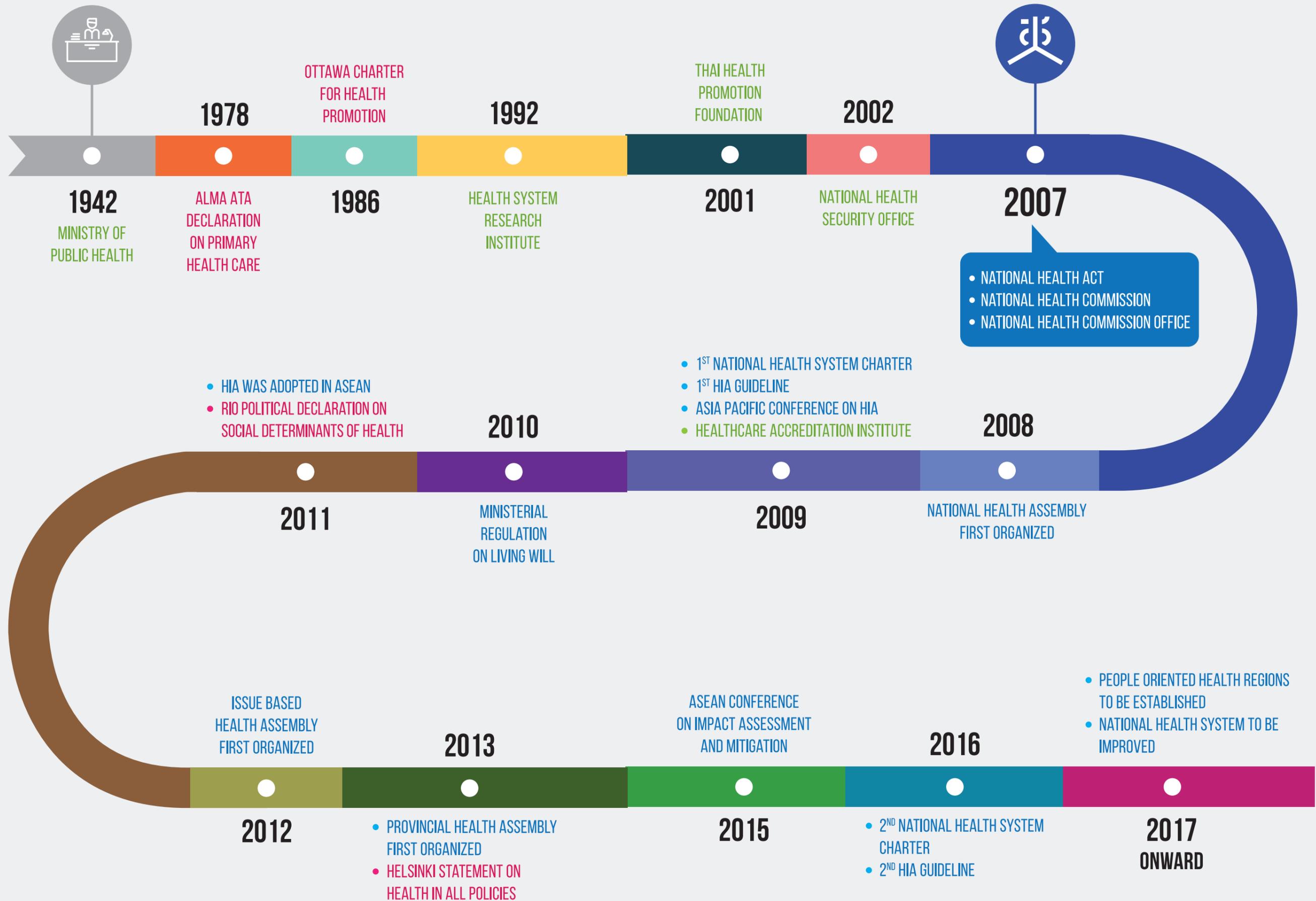
Thailand National
Health Commission
Office



- Global Health Movement
- Thai Health Movement
- NHCO Movement



NHCO Timeline





WHO WE ARE

Thailand National Health Commission Office (NHCO)

is an autonomous government agency established under the National Health Act in 2007. Our vision is to create the national health system by a participatory public policy process based on wisdom (4P-W).



WHAT WE DO

NHCO plays a neutral role as a facilitator for a policy process which underlines inclusive participation and evidence. Our fine-tuned tools and processes are in place to help make policy recommendations sound and healthy.

Health System Charter

The National Health System Charter is developed in a participatory manner as a framework and guideline in making policy and strategy. Fourteen issues of the health system charter have been addressed including the spiritual health and local health system charter.

The first National Health System Charter was published in 2009 and reviewed five years later. In 2016, the cabinet approved and published the second National Health System Charter in the Government Gazette.

Apart from the national charter, the idea of developing the health system charter as a shared direction of advancing the health system is spread across various jurisdictions. Over 300 local health system charters were formulated and put into action. These charters, for example, provide a framework for local communities to manage community health funds.

Health Assembly

As a process and platform that promote health in all policies, the Health Assembly seeks to bring together stakeholders from health and non-health sectors into dialogues.

Evidence support and inclusive participation by the government, academia and the people sector are incorporated throughout the process starting from agenda setting, resolution drafting, stakeholder and public consultation, resolution adoption, implementation and M&E.

There are three types of health assembly, namely the National Health Assembly that is convened every December, the provincial-level area-based health assembly and issue based health assembly, for example, the issue of health screening guidelines and the issue of rice farmers' wellbeing, among other issues.

The National Health Assembly (NHA) was officially convened in 2008. The consensus based resolutions of the NHA are submitted to the National Health Commission and further to the Cabinet. Until 2015, sixty-nine NHA resolutions have been implemented, including resolutions on Thailand's Global Health Strategies, antibacterial resistance, one health, illegal advertisement of drugs and health products, daily cycling, to name a few.

Health Impact Assessment

HIA is a process of assessing impacts on health and social determinants of health from policies, programmes and projects using quantitative, qualitative and participatory techniques. It aims to develop evidence-based recommendations that inform decision-making in order to protect and improve society's health and wellbeing. We promote HIA at the national and community levels while also expanding it to ASEAN countries.

HIA Commission is established to develop HIA system and mechanism including knowledge management and capacity building. Apart from the Commission, HIA consortium is also set up under collaboration with at least nine Universities to give a technical support to the Commission and lend a helping hand to communities.

A community or a group of affected people themselves can submit a petition to NHCO requesting assessment of the health impacts of public policies, programmes and projects. At various occasions, we facilitated HIA to support the communities as well as encourage them to conduct HIA. Projects include Maptaphut industrial estate in Rayong province, biomass power plant in Roi-et and Surin provinces, gold mining in Loei and Phitsanulok provinces, a deep sea port in Chachoengsao province, etc.

After the launch of the first HIA guideline in 2009, the National Health Commission published the second HIA guideline in 2016 to keep it up to date. Thailand's HIA Guideline is used as a model for other countries such as Bhutan to develop its own guideline. Furthermore, NHCO has established collaboration with the ASEAN HIA network and the Greater Mekhong Subregion Public Health Academic Network. Our common goal is to enhance HIA's capacity.

Rights to Health

Rights to health are clearly specified in the National Health Act. Among them are the right to make a living will and the rights related to health information. NHCO has successfully pushed the ministerial regulations concerning conditions and methods to enforce a living will amid thriving practices at health services that prolong the life of a patient who is going through final stages of terminal illness.



HOW WE WORK

Synergy for Wellbeing

NHCO's role is to synergise knowledge power, authoritative power and people power in order to build a strong foundation for wellbeing based on the "Triangle that Moves the Mountain" principle. To this end, we collaborate with academia, the government and the people sectors from health and non-health sectors at the national and local levels to develop and implement a healthy and responsive public policy. A participatory process based on wisdom is a heart of our success.

Organizational Structure

NHCO works under the supervision of the National Health Commission which is chaired by the Prime Minister. This intersectoral commission comprises an equal share of representatives from the government sector, profession/academia and the people sector.

With a mandate to give advice on health-related policies and strategies to the Cabinet, the National Health Commission has set up several commissions to support its work, e.g. HIA Commission, National Commission on International Trade and Health Studies, National Commission on Human Resources for Health Development, etc.