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Set up universal health coverage mechanism

Experts tell regional meet

Metro Desk

Experts at a regional consultation meeting on Monday stressed the need for establishing a universal health coverage mechanism with an aim to ensure skilled workforce in the sector.

The James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) in association with Partners in Population Development (PPD) and BLAST has organised the meeting titled Framework Convention on Global Health (FCGH) on the school premises at Brac University in the city.

The programme is funded by the Rockefeller Grant, says a press release.

South and South East Asian regional health experts from India, Pakistan, Nepal and the Philippines, along with a large number of national health experts, local NGO and UN representatives, civil society members and academics attended the meeting.

Vice Chairperson of Brac Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Reza Choudhury inaugurated the programme while Dean of the JPGSPH Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid chaired it.

The discussion was led by Prof Lawrence Gostin, faculty director of the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at the Georgetown University Law Centre in Washington, DC while Joe Thomas, country director for PPD, shared strategies to take this treaty forward.

The main objective of this meeting was to gather knowledge and opinion from the participants based on their expertise, learning and experience.

The meeting ended with the great enthusiasm and interest from all that although this is an ambitious undertaking, but believe that if successful, such a treaty could have immense benefits for health, especially the health of people who now suffer most from its inequities and shortcomings of implementing the right to health, the release added