

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. BACKGROUND

In the age of globalization, international traveling transportation is more convenient. However it also brings the uncontrolled global disease problem. Every country around the world is aware of the impact of economic growth and national security. Thus, they need to pay attention to the problem of public health policy as one indicator of national welfare. Moreover, it also gives priority to expanding international cooperation in public health in terms of the level of cooperation in order that the government and related agencies of various countries can respond more effectively.

Basically, health care affects the quality of life. The body needs to thrive and strengthen to fight against various diseases. Naturally, the basic needs of life contains many essentials such as food, water, air, relaxation, exercise and illness less because life is precious than any property. Therefore, health care is the most important in improving the quality of life and also it effects work capacity which is able to bear the burden duties more effectively.

*“The definition of public policy health given by Winslow in 1920 has been widely accepted: “Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting physical health and efficacy through organized community efforts for the sanitation of the environment, the control of communicable infections, the education of the individual in personal hygiene, the organization of medical and nursing services for the early diagnosis and preventive treatment of disease, and the development of social machinery which will ensure every individual in the community a standard of living adequate for the maintenance of health; so organizing these benefits in such a fashion as to enable every citizen to realize his birth right and longevity”.*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>CEA Winslow, The untilled field of public health. Modern Medicine, 1920, 2:183-191.

Health is important to the quality of life as a result, every country around the world with a focus on health policy. Related to one sample of Thailand public health policy, Mr.Thaksin Shinawatra, the former Thailand prime minister launched the public health policy called universal health coverage 30 Bath (หลักประกันสุขภาพถ้วนหน้า30บาทรักษาทุกโรค). This policy satisfies to the public very seriously. The universal health coverage 30 bath makes changes to the health care of Thailand especially the population has no health insurance coverage earlier more than 20 million people. This policy can help the poor and the racist in society to have the opportunity to receive medical treatment as well.

Witaya Buranasiri minister of health said “The universal health coverage 30 Bath for health insurance for Thailand people to have access to health services standards and also effective since of health promotion disease prevention treatment and rehabilitation are essential to the health and livelihood. Current users of health care have more than 48 million people or about 75 percent of the population”<sup>2</sup>. Give health insurance policy "30 baht health care" the most successful moreover internationally recognized including world health organization (WHO), World Bank and JICA(The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is advancing its activities around the pillars of a field-oriented approach, human security, and enhanced effectiveness, efficiency, and speed) that a successful project.<sup>3</sup>

The accelerated pace of globalization is dissolving the distinctions between many domestic and foreign issues. One nation’s health status and risks can affect not only its own prospects and also its neighbors but also those of the entire world. So to keep up with the era

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<sup>2</sup><http://www.manager.co.th/QOL/ViewNews.aspx?NewsID=9550000101774>:accessed:16 December 2014

<sup>3</sup><http://www.thairath.co.th/content/384305> by Thairath New online: 21 November 2014

of globalization, it is very important to pay attention to the health of the international community to cooperate. In 2009 H1N1 influenza A pandemic, exemplified how quickly emerging infections can spread, costing lives and curtailing travel and trade among interdependent economies.<sup>4</sup> To prevent the disease has spread so quickly, so it is very important to strengthen policies for joint health. The international community recognizes the importance of diplomacy health to respond to a stream today's world. Thailand recognizes the importance of the above then joined the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative (FPGH).

The FPGH is a partnership of countries that provide critical Health diplomacy to 7(seven) countries Including Norway, France, Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa, Senegal and Thailand. Public health issues, not just on the inside of one country anymore but prevention and Health problem need to rely on international cooperation is essential.<sup>5</sup>

In 2006, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of seven countries to move towards foreign policy that accounts for public health concerns is the mission of the Foreign Policy and Global Health (FPGH) initiative launched by the foreign ministers of Brazil, France, Indonesia, Norway, Senegal, South Africa and Thailand. The purpose of FPGH initiative seeks to promote the use of a health lens in formulating foreign policy to work together towards common goals.

The Ministers committed to accelerate both individual and collective efforts to pursue the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular aim towards reducing child mortality (MDG4), improving maternal health (MDG5) and combating HIV/AIDS as well as Tuberculosis and Malaria (MDG6). The recommendations of the

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<sup>4</sup>Milbank Quaterly a multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health And Health Policy p.504

<sup>5</sup><http://www.mfa.go.th/main/th/issues/9897html> accessed:12/12/2014

Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health on institutional arrangements to strengthen national and global accountability processes both with regard to resources as well as monitoring of results contribute to strengthening our efforts in this regard.<sup>6</sup>

In 2007, the group published the Oslo Ministerial Declaration, highlighting the links between health and foreign policy, calling for a stronger strategic focus for health as a foreign policy issue, and proposing an agenda for action of raising the priority of health in foreign policy.<sup>7</sup> "Understanding 'domestic' issues in a regional or global context must become part of doing a good job. Increasingly, the optimal solution to these issues will depend on what is happening abroad, and the solutions to foreign issues, in corresponding measure, by what is happening at home. The ministerial declaration on implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health adopted at the 2009 high level segment of the Economic and Social Council (A/64/3, Para. 56) Clearly, articulates the significant interlink ages between health outcomes and a number of sectorial interests that are at the heart of national and international stability such as economic productivity and protecting the most vulnerable in times of crisis (economic crisis, food crisis, climate change, conflicts and natural disasters).<sup>8</sup>

Atsavapraneer argues that the government's foreign health policy has been 'directed and driven as well by policy prescription but more by their (Ministry of Public Health & Ministry of Foreign Affairs) convergence of interests. Several issues have pushed the relationship

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<sup>6</sup><http://www.franceonugeneve.org/The-Foreign-Policy-and-Global> accessed:6/1/2015

<sup>7</sup> "Oslo Ministerial Declaration-global health: a pressing foreign policy issue of our time", The Lancet (2007; 369:1373-78)

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.who.int/trade/foreignpolicy/FPGH.pdf>

ahead. First is the fear of disease epidemics such as HIV/AIDS, XDR-TB, and influenza, and their effect on domestic human security.<sup>9</sup>

Thailand is member of Foreign Policy and Global health. Their ability to do so is important to advancing international cooperation in health.

## **B. RESEARCH QUESTION**

Those explanations have referred to the basic question related to this study:

**“Why did Thailand participate in The Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative (FPGH)?”**

## **C. THEORETICAL FRAMWORK**

Integration theory

A concept that came to prominence in the 1950s, initially as a description of changes in political and economic architecture then scholars quickly realized that what was taking place within Western Europe had important implications for international relations generally, and for international relation theory. Drawing on sociological theories of functionalism, writers such as David Mitrany, Karl Deutsch, and Ernst Haas made important contributions to the study of integration in international relations and laid the intellectual foundations for the study of interdependency in the 1970s.

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<sup>9</sup> Foreign Policy and Global Health: Country Strategies Devi Sridhar, All Souls College, Oxford. pdf

Refer to Axtmann, Integration can best be understood as a process. It involves (a) a movement towards increased cooperation between countries; (b) a gradual homogenization of values; (c) the coming into being of global civil society and with it, the construction of new forms of political community.<sup>10</sup> The most advanced state of integration would be one where states were either federated on a global scale or allowed to atrophy altogether in favor of a global or world government. How Far the international system is from this point is a measure of how far integration has progressed. The integration theory is the cooperation of the state came to seek stability peace and cooperation in various fields. According to this concept (a) the relation and cooperation between state is become better. (b)Thailand adopts FPGH step by step in order to less impact. (c)The health policy will be apply over the world not just seven members country.

There are two levels of integration at work in international relations today. The first is system level integration. This refers to the process in which countries to transfer some degree of political, decision-making and economic power law for supranational institutions on a global scale. It is designed to improve the quality of domestic and global governance, to streamline decision-making, and provide a basis for collective action. Some scholars regard the United Nations as a good example of system-level integration despite the fact that the UN remains accountable to, and an instrument of state. The second level is regional integration. This is where a number of states within close proximity to one another join together to form of states within close proximity to one another join together to form a federal political and economic union. The European Union (EU) in an example of regional integration.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>Martin Griffiths and Terry O'callaghan, international relations the key concept,2002

<sup>11</sup> Bill Newmann, A Brief Introduction to Theories on International Relations and Foreign Policy

FPGH emphasized to integration, is combination of foreign policy and public health. FPGH is health diplomacy that consists of seven member countries. Each country has different policies, regularly, to achieve most of benefit and is not only member counties but also beneficial to the global population, Therefore, integrate health policy together because each countries there are different problems and solutions, is better if there is a solution and find a solution together, is better if there is a solution and find a solution together for improve the quality of domestic and global governance.

FPGH as institution not only gives benefit for the member state but also spreads out the benefit to the other. FPGH members are trying to develop the remedies and policy in order to prevent or keep up with the diseases. It is a diplomatic public health policy. FPGH is also for public health development and disease prevention within member countries. They are also working for international context. Moreover, they want to promote and simulate the world public health institution in every country to aware of the disease infection, i.e. mineralizing HIV infection and any other plagues. Furthermore, FPGH is also conscious of reduce child mortality (MGD4) and improve maternal health (MDG5) which model other countries in adapting public health policy within own countries.

- International regimes

International regimes have been defined in various ways according to the analysts since John Ruggie first introduced this concept to international relations in 1975. But the most prominent definition is given by Krasner: ‘sets of implicit or explicit principles, norms, rules, and decision-making procedures around which actors’ expectations converge in a given area of international relations. Principles are beliefs of fact, causation, and rectitude. Norms are

standards of behavior defined in terms of rights and obligations. Rules are specific prescriptions or proscriptions for action. Decision making procedures are prevailing practices for making and implementing collective choice'.<sup>12</sup>It is important to distinguish between principles and norms in one hand, and rules and procedures on the other hand. Since principles and norms are considered as the basic defining characteristics of a regime, changes in them means those of the regime itself. By contrast, rules and procedures may be altered within regimes underpinned by principles and norms. Regimes can be viewed as neither as broad as international structure, nor as narrow as formal international organizations.<sup>13</sup> They are intervening variables standing between basic characteristics of world politics such as power capabilities, and state behaviors.

The regime theory is based on the systemic analysis developed by neorealist approach, and seeks to define the regime neither as broad as international structure, nor as narrow as formal international organizations. The regime analysts seek to answer the question of why the interests of states tend toward cooperation rather than toward the creation of discord in an anarchical states system by demonstrating that there exist relatively permanent frameworks within which discord is subjected to a certain degree of cooperation.<sup>14</sup>International regimes theory is a process of common policy under the norms, decision-making procedure and rules.

Norway, France, Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa, Senegal and Thailand make a common policy on health care and integration each other to find solutions and avoid any disease and will be used in the same direction. FPGH is followed Millennium Development Goals

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<sup>12</sup> Stephen D., Krasner, 'Structural Causes and Regime Consequence: Regimes As Intervening Variables', in Stephen D., Krasner, ed., International Regimes, p.2.

<sup>13</sup> Stephan, Haggard and Beth A., Simmons, 'Theories of International Regimes', International Organization 41 (1987) p.492.

<sup>14</sup> Keman, and Braun, op.cit., p.549



(MDGs). MDGs is a program from UN, MDGs are the world's time-bound and quantified targets for addressing extreme poverty in its many dimensions-income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter, and exclusion-while promoting gender equality, education, and environmental sustainability. They are also basic human rights-the rights of each person on the planet to health, education, shelter, and security.<sup>15</sup>FPGH as one approach that can be health diplomacy then make good relation among country through distribution and processes. Therefore, can get target and successful in MDGs program. International regimes are close to international organizations and international treaties. However, international regimes are conceptually institutions, which are non-material phenomena unlike international organizations, which have a material existence with personnel staff and budgets. International regimes include not only explicit rules like international treaties implicit custom.

FPGH is international regimes; Thailand has joined FPGH initiative in 2006 at the meeting in Oslo declaration. Thailand and other member countries aware the global health problem those member countries agreed to cooperate by creating rules, norms and make decision process. After Thailand joined FPGH initiative Thailand has returned to integrate the health policy or Universal Health Coverage 30 Bath, which is already available to achieve progress and perfection. This integration is achieving MDGs, so it has mostly targeted the context of development of Thailand and more challenging<sup>16</sup>. International relations rely on each other including some issues that have become more diversified. Health issue itself is global problem then need to use integration theory and regime theory as a framework for understanding and solving problems. FPGH including seven members country it is very

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<sup>15</sup><http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/goals/>. (Accessed on 10/1/2015)

<sup>16</sup>Annual Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2011<http://www.mfa.go.th/main/contents/files/policy-20120821-154746-742846.pdf> (Accessed on 10/1/2015)

important to establishment of the regime by creating rules, norms, and decision making process around which actor as well as the establishment of international institutions in order to maintain a fair and resolve health problem. The FPGH regime has been established to contribute to the integration and use them to achieve sustainable development.

#### **D. HYPOTHESIS**

According to problem background, research question and theoretical framework, the following hypothesis can be put forward: The first reason is Thailand need to implement the health policy to prevent the disease and develop the health policy in Thailand. This policy already available is called Universal Health Coverage 30 bath and the policy can help all the people in Thailand to get treatment without worrying about the cost. The second reason is Thailand need to implement the health policy into international level. Therefore, the integration of public health policy in Thailand with Foreign Policy and Global Health initiative host by minister of foreign affair and ministry of public health. Thailand joined the Foreign Policy and Global Health initiative to make principles, norms, rules and decision making process. Thus, Thailand integrated to achieve the sustainable development and implementation of health policy to be better condition of Thailand.

#### **E. METHOD TO COLLECT DATA**

In this writing, the writer uses several ways to collect the data in order to discuss the problem, they are as follows:

1. Media research, collecting the data from media like the internet in order to find references and sources to accomplish the explanation of the problem.

2. Library research, this method was used to study the relevant sources in order to discuss the problem and by using the qualitative research the writer also will get secondary data.
3. Data analysis, the data gained from the internet and library (books), were checked for the relevancy in order to be used as the sources in the final paper arrangement.
4. Proving hypothesis, derived from the meaning of the title, the discussion of the problem, and data analysis.

## **F. OBJECTIVE OF RESEARCH**

The objectives of research are:

1. As the requirement to fulfill one of the subject in international relations studies.
2. This research aims at understanding the participation of Thailand in Foreign Policy and global health initiative.
3. To know the benefits of cooperation to strengthen international health policy.
4. To implement the political concept of international relations directly to explain the case that is relevant to the problem.

## **G. SCOPE OF RESEARCH**

Focusing more on the topic research, the writer limits the time, in which the research is conducted. The scope of discussion started from at the beginning, ministers of Foreign Affairs of seven countries in 2006, to move towards foreign policy that accounts for public health concerns is the mission of the Foreign Policy and Global Health (FPGH) initiative launched

by the foreign ministers of Brazil, France, Indonesia, Norway, Senegal, South Africa and Thailand. The writer will describe the event until 2014.

## **H. THE SYSTEM OF WRITING**

### **CHAPTER I**

Will be explaining about the Problem Background, Research Question, Purpose of Research, Theoretical Framework, Hypothesis, Method of Research, Scope of Research, and System of Writing.

### **CHAPTER II**

Will be discussing brief history about Thai's regime on Health Care.

### **CHAPTER III**

Will discuss Health Diplomacy, FPGHI institution, Global Health Care and FPGHI.

### **CHAPTER IV**

Would answer the research Thai's decision to join the FPGHI.

### **CHAPTER V**

Will give the conclusion from all of the chapters and also give a suggestion.