

Statement to OpenHIE Community Members & #OHIE24 Participants on Upcoming Sri Lanka Elections



27 September 2024

Dear OpenHIE Community Members and Participants,

As we prepare to host the OpenHIE Community Meeting from 12th to 16th November 2024 in Colombo, I would like to take a moment to address any concerns that may arise due to Sri Lanka's upcoming general election, scheduled for 14th November 2024.

I want to reassure you that elections in Sri Lanka are peaceful, democratic, and well-organized events. The recently concluded Presidential Election is a clear testament to this; it was widely lauded by many, including European Union Election Observers, for its orderly execution and peaceful conduct. This further affirms the strength of Sri Lanka's democracy and its ability to host major international gatherings without disruption.

As co-hosts of the OpenHIE Community Meeting, we are confident that the election will not impact the event. The Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka has formally endorsed the meeting, and the Sri Lanka College of Health Informatics is fully committed to ensuring the smooth execution of all activities. We will be monitoring the situation closely, and if necessary, will intervene to mitigate any concerns. Our team, along with the Ministry and the event management team will work to ensure that all logistical arrangements proceed as planned, and we foresee no cause for undue concern.

We are excited to welcome you to Colombo for what promises to be a productive and insightful gathering of global health informatics professionals.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a successful event.

Warm regards,

Dr. Chaminda Weerabaddana
President
Sri Lanka College of Health Informatics