BACKGROUND

The South Asian Federation of Endocrine Societies (SAFES) is an association of five national professional bodies in South Asia: The Endocrine Society of Bangladesh, Endocrine Society of India, Diabetes and Endocrine Association of Nepal, Pakistan Endocrine Society, and Endocrine Society of Sri Lanka. SAFES aim to bring together its members, to share and learn from each other, and to contribute to the growth of endocrinology in South Asia. SAFES, in consultation with each of its associations, has listed, analysed and prioritised various endocrine public health issues.

On this background, Dhaka Declaration was made on 2nd SAFES Summit, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 24-26 April, 2015 where gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) was identified as the focus of attention for the term 2015-2017. In the height of Dhaka Declaration, a follow up meeting was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka October 2015, initiatives on "Action plan on GDM" was formulated which is to be implemented on four phases; Phase 1: Dhaka declaration that initiated the Action plan, Phase 2: Draft formulation on Action plan and relevant researches, Phase 3: Implementation and Phase 4: Final Recommendation.