



European
Commission



Best practices in implementing the International Health Regulations (IHR)

7 & 8 JUNE 2018

Venue: Acropolis Museum, Athens, Greece

Serious cross-border health threats emerge daily and affect multiple countries and sectors in our globalised society. Some of the recent examples include pandemic influenza, Ebola, Zika virus and vector borne diseases, such as malaria or chikungunya. Public health authorities in Europe and around the world are called upon to address various issues that require collaboration with other sectors and develop a variety of core capacities to effectively respond and improve health security, in line with the International Health Regulation 2005.

Strengthening health security and crisis preparedness is of paramount importance to effectively respond to public health emergencies. Pandemics are unpredictable and can have severe consequences on human health with serious cross-border public health implications as well as worldwide economic effects. The International Health Regulations (IHR) is the key legislative pillar of global health security defining the core capacities that Member States should have in place to prepare for outbreaks and ensure the required response. At EU level, Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health provides the framework to improve preparedness and coordinate response to health emergencies across the EU caused by biological, chemical, environmental agents and threats of unknown origin.

Boosting the implementation of the IHR is the key towards improving health security, preparedness and response to health risks and threats with a cross-border dimension.

In this respect the Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (KEELPNO) in collaboration with the European

Commission and the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea) and under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Health are organising a meeting on 'Best Practices in implementing the International Health Regulations', in Athens, Greece, on 7-8 June 2018. The event design have the support of the Organizing Committee and the President of Scientific committee, Theofilos Rosenberg, Assoc. Professor of Surgery, President of HCDC, in collaboration with the Directorate for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) and the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea)

Multiple stakeholders across sectors involved in responding to serious cross-border health threats from EU/EEA and accession countries to communicate and exchange experiences on best practices, have been invited to the conference.

The main objectives of this conference are:

- To present an overview of the current EU framework on cross-border health threats and the interconnection with IHR.
- To present the monitoring and evaluation framework adopted by WHO.
- To exchange experiences and discuss challenges in achieving interoperability of sectors in the framework of cross-border health threat response and IHR implementation.
- To disseminate the results of European projects co-funded by the 2nd and 3rd Health Programmes in the area of health threats preparedness and response.
- To derive lessons for Greek and EU public health authorities in revising national plans and improving IHR implementation procedures.

Under the auspices of



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



HELLENIC CENTER FOR
DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION (H.C.D.C.P.)
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Consumers, Health,
Agriculture and Food
Executive Agency

Agenda

DAY 1 • 7 JUNE 2018

08:30 • 09:45 **Registration**

09:45 • 11:05 **SESSION 1** Cross-border health threats and IHR implementation

Chairpersons:

Ioannis Baskozos, Sec. Gen. Public Health-Ministry of Health Greece

Antonis Lanaras, Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission

Rapporteur:

Kassiani Golfinopoulou, Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, HCDCP, Greece

Objectives:

To provide an overview of the current EU framework on cross-border health threats and the interconnection with International Health Regulation (IHR)

To introduce the monitoring and evaluation system adopted by WHO

09:45 • 10:00 **1st Talk** • The EU health security framework on serious cross-border health threats
Speaker: Antonis Lanaras, Crisis management and preparedness in health, DG SANTE, European Commission

10:00 • 10:15 **2nd Talk** • The WHO vision for the implementation of IHR – monitoring and evaluation, the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool Ver2.0
Speaker: Nirmal Kandel, Core Capacity Assessment, Monitoring & Evaluation at World Health Organisation, Headquarters (WHO)

10:15 • 10:30 **3rd Talk** • Current cross-border health threats
Speaker: Massimo Ciotti, Country Preparedness and Support, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

10:30 • 10:45 **4th Talk** • The role of HCDCP in the management of health threats
Speaker: Sotirios Tsiodras, Univ. of Athens-HCDCP, Greece

10:45 • 10:55 **Brief Intervention** • The Greek experience: monitoring IHR implementation
Speaker: Vasileios Diamantopoulos, Administrative Region of Peloponnese, Greece

10:55 • 11:05 **Questions and Discussion**

11:05 • 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 • 13:00 **SESSION 2** Emerging, Chemical, Biological and Radiological (CBRN) Threats

Chairpersons:

Giannis Kapakis, Sec Gen Civil Protection, Min Citizen Protection

Vassiliki Karaouli, Dir Public Health Ministry of Health, Greece

Moderator:

Agoritsa Baka, ECDC

Rapporteur:

Gerasimos Gerolymatos, HCDCP, Greece

Objectives:

To provide an overview on the EU action plan for CBRN threats, and lessons learned from activities and projects financed in this area with valuable results for the Health Sector

11:30 • 11:45 **1st Talk** • Preparedness against CBRN threats – EU Action Plan
Speaker: Wiktor Wojtas, Terrorism and radicalization, DG Migration and Home Affairs, DG HOME, European Commission

11:45 • 12:00 **2nd Talk** • Results from the EU inter-sectoral table-top exercise «Chimera» on hybrid threats
Speaker: Margherita Fanos, Crisis management and preparedness in health, DG SANTE, European Commission

12:00 • 12:15 **3rd Talk** • Public Health Laboratories and IHR – Efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens at EU level Joint Action
Speaker: Roland Grunow, Robert Koch-Institut (RKI), Germany

- 12:15 • 12:30 **4th Talk** • Challenges in Public Health: Motivating the community – the ASSET Project
Speaker: Valentina Possenti, Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), Italy
- 12:30 • 12:40 **Brief Intervention** • The Greek experience: laboratory preparedness
Speaker: Anna Papa, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
- 12:40 • 13:00 **Moderated Discussion**

13:00 • 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 • 17:50 **SESSION 3** Interoperability of sectors in the framework of preparedness for health emergencies

Chairpersons:

Konstantinos Pardalis, Ministry for Shipping, Greece
Massimo Ciotti, ECDC

Moderator:

Mika Salminen, THL, Finland

Rapporteur:

Vasilios Raftopoulos, HCDCP, Greece

Objectives:

To outline the framework and activities for generic preparedness planning in the EU
 To present experience from EU Member States/ EEA states and accession countries about their challenges in the implementation of IHR and/or national planning

- 14:00 • 14:15 **1st Talk** • EU actions on preparedness and response planning
Speaker: Margherita Fanos, Crisis management and preparedness in health, DG SANTE, European Commission
- 14:15 • 14:35 **2nd Talk** • Crisis communication in the framework of preparedness for health emergencies
Speaker: Marsha Vanderford, former WHO Director of Communications, USA
- 14:35 • 14:45 **3rd Talk** • European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations and the role of the new Medical Corps
Speaker: Iivi Luuk, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), European Commission
- 14:45 • 17:30 **Implementation of IHR, Processes and challenges: Member States case studies**
Moderator: Mika Salminen, Terveyden ja hyvinvoinnin laitos, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland
- 14:45 • 14:55 **ITALY** • 'The challenge of vector-borne diseases: the Italian experience in improving preparedness'
Speaker: Patrizia Parodi, DG for Health Prevention, Ministry of Health, Italy
- 14:55 • 15:05 **FRANCE** • 'French experience on interoperability between the health sector and other sectors'
Speaker: Thierry Paux, Direction Générale de la Santé, Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé, France
- 15:05 • 15:15 **PORTUGAL** • 'Experience gained in Portugal'
Speaker: Paula Vasconcelos, Directorate-General of Health, Portugal
- 15:15 • 15:25 **FYROM** • 'The experience gained in Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'
Speaker: Sotirija Duvlis, National Institute of Health Protection, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, FYROM
- 15:25 • 15:35 **NORWAY** • 'Experience from the implementation of IHR in Norway'
Speaker: Karin Nygård, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway
- 15:35 • 16:00 **Round Table discussion**

16:00 • 16:20 **Coffee break**

Implementation of IHR, Processes and challenges: MS case studies (continued)

- 16:20 • 16:30 **SWEDEN** • 'The experience gained in Sweden'
Speaker: Kim Brolin Ribacke, Public Health Agency of Sweden, Sweden
- 16:30 • 16:40 **SERBIA** • 'Experience gained in Serbia'
Speaker: Verica Jovanovic, Institute of Public Health of Serbia, Serbia

- 16:40 - 16:50 **BELGIUM** • 'The experience gained in Belgium'
Speaker: Luc Tsachoua, Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Belgium
- 16:50 - 17:00 **FINLAND** • 'Lifesaving lessons of investing in IHR core public health capacity'
Speaker: Mika Salminen, THL, Finland
- 17:00 - 17:10 **NETHERLANDS** • Implementation of the IHR, specifically on the international airport Schiphol
Speaker: Daisy Ooms, Communicable Disease Control Public Health Agency, Netherlands
- 17:10 - 17:20 **CROATIA**: Experience implementing the IHR
Speaker: Aleksandar Simunovic, Croatian institute of public health, Croatia
- 17:20 - 17:50 **Round Table discussion**

18:00 - 19:00 **OPENING CEREMONY**
 MINISTERS, PRESIDENT HCDCP
 EUROPEAN COMMISSION (DG SANTE)
 Kind participation of the Cretan Union of New Smyrna

DAY 2 • 8 JUNE 2018

09:00 - 09:15 **Summary from Day 1**
George Saroglou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

09:15 - 11:00 **SESSION 4 TOOLS FOR CORE CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE MEMBER STATES**

Chairpersons:

Athina Kirlesi, Gen Dir Public Health, Ministry of Health, Greece
Nirmal Kandel, WHO HQ

Moderator:

Paula Vasconcelos, MoH, Portugal

Rapporteur:

Reggina Vorou, HCDCP, Greece

Objective:

To provide information on existing guidance, activities and tools created by Agencies and projects financed by the Commission, that could be useful for core capacity building

09:15 - 09:30 **1st Talk** • Public health emergency preparedness: Core competencies for EU Member States
Speaker: Massimo Ciotti, Country Preparedness and Support, ECDC

09:30 - 10:45 15 min each

Round Table: Capacity Building in Europe

From EpiSouth to Medilabsecure – *Silvia Declich, Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), Italy*

MediPIET – *Nikoletta Mavroidi, Greece*

AirSAN (Coordinated action to control infectious diseases transmission on the aircrafts) – *Maria an der Heiden, Robert Koch-Institut (RKI), Germany*

SHIPSAN ACT (the impact on maritime transport of health threats due to biological, chemical & radiological agents, including communicable diseases) – *Miguel Dávila Cornejo, Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad, Spain*

JA Healthy GateWays (Preparedness and action at points of entry) – *Barbara Mouchtouri, University of Thessaly, Greece*

10:45 - 10:55 **Brief Talk** • The Greek experience: core capacities
Speaker: Amalia Tzikou, Administrative Region of South Aegean, Greece

10:55 - 11:15 Synergies, experiences, gaps identified, missing tools, future plans: Plenary moderated panel discussion

11:15 - 11:45 **Coffee break**

11:45 • 13:00 **SESSION 5** Migration and Public Health

Chairpersons:

Miltiadis Klapas, Gen Sec for Migration Policy, Ministry of Migration Policy, Greece
Agapios Terzidis, HCDCP, Greece

Moderator:

Jonathan Suk, ECDC

Rapporteur:

Kassiani Mellou, HCDCP

Objectives:

Updates on the current situation of migration flows in Greece and Europe in general
Activities and past and on-going projects focusing on migration and Public Health financed by the Commission

- 11:45 • 12:00 **1st Talk** • Migratory flows and overview of the situation, CARE and PHILOS projects in Greece
Speaker: Agapios Terzidis, HCDCP, Greece
- 12:00 • 12:15 **2nd Talk** • Fostering health provision for migrants, the Roma, and other vulnerable groups (EQUI – HEALTH) and Health Assessment Direct grant agreement (RE-HEALTH)
Speaker: Elena Val, International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- 12:15 • 12:30 **3rd Talk** • Supporting Health Coordination, Assessments, Planning, Access to Health Care and Capacity Building in Member States under Particular Migratory Pressure – Project SH-CAPAC
Speakers: Daniel Lopez Acuna, Andalusian School of Public Health, Spain
- 12:30 • 12:40 **Brief Intervention** • The Greek experience: Migrant health, risk assessment and response
Speaker: Ioannis Nikopoulos, Administrative Region of Epirus, Greece
- 12:40 • 13:00 **Questions and Discussion**

13:00 • 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 • 16:00 **SESSION 6** Conclusions and Lessons to Learn

Chairpersons: Theofilos Rosenberg, President HCDCP
Antonios Lanaras, DG SANTE, European Commission

- 14:00 • 14:15 **Key points from Session 1** • Cross-border threats and the implementation of the IHR
Speaker: Agoritsa Baka, ECDC
- 14:15 • 14:30 **Key points from Session 2** • Emerging and CBRN Threats
Speaker: Dimitrios Iliopoulos, HCDCP, Greece
- 14:30 • 14:45 **Key points from Session 3** • Interoperability of sectors in the framework of preparedness
Speaker: Christos Hadjichristodoulou, University of Thessaly, Greece
- 14:45 • 15:00 **Key Points from Session 4** • Tools for Core Capacity Building
Speaker: Nikoletta Mavroidi, Greece
- 15:00 • 15:15 **Key Points from Session 5** • Migration and Public Health
Speaker: Chrysoula Botsi, HCDCP, Greece
- 15:15 • 15:30 **Plenary discussion**
- 15:30 • 16:00 **HCDCP, European Commission (DG SANTE), WHO**
Athens conclusion on implementing the IHR
A roadmap to Joint External Evaluation for Greece
Final conclusions

List of actions funded by the 2nd Health Programme (2008-2013) and 3rd Health Programme (2014-2020) on Health threats, including migrant health

Second Health Programme 2008-2013

Actions implemented to increase preparedness and responses capacities to Health threats

2008

1. DPR-EMS/WHO – Support health security, preparedness planning and crisis management in EU, EU accession and neighbouring (ENP) countries, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/publications/abstracts/strengthening-health-system-emergency-preparedness-toolkit-for-assessing-health-system-capacity-for-crisis-management-part-1-user-manual-2012>
2. CLIMATE TRAP – Climate Change Adaptation by Training, Assessment and Preparedness, <http://www.climatetrapp.eu>

2009

3. ARPEC – Antibiotic Resistance and Prescribing in European Children, <http://www.arpecproject.eu>
4. TRIPLE S-AGE – Syndromic Surveillance Survey, Assessment towards Guidelines for Europe, <http://www.syndromic-surveillance.eu>
5. EPISOUTH PLUS – a Network for the Control of Public Health Threats and other bio-security risks in the Mediterranean Region and Balkans, <http://www.episouthnetwork.org/>
6. FASTVAC: A generic framework for FAST production and evaluation of emergency Vaccines, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/projects/20091106

2010

7. FLURESP – Cost effectiveness assessment of European influenza human pandemic alert and response strategies, <http://www.fluresp.eu>
8. HProImmune – Promotion of Immunization for Health Professionals in Europe, www.hproimmune.eu
9. PHASE – Public Health Adaptation Strategies to Extreme Weather Event
10. QUANDHIP (Joint Action) – Quality Assurance Exercises and Networking on the Detection of Highly Infectious Pathogens, http://www.quandhip.info/Quandhip/EN/Content/AboutUs/aboutus_node.html

2011

11. CriCoRM – Project on crisis communication in the area of risk management, www.cricorm.eu
12. ASHT Phase III – Alerting Surveillance and Reporting System for Chemical Health Threats, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/projects/20111101/summary

2012

13. AIRSAN – Coordinated action to control infectious diseases transmission on the aircrafts, <http://www.airsan.eu>
14. SHIPSAN ACT (Joint Action) – The impact on maritime transport of health threats due to biological, chemical & radiological agents, including communicable diseases, <http://www.shipsan.eu>
15. SSI_FY operating grant for EuroMOMO network focused on real-time mortality monitoring, <http://www.euromomo.eu/>
16. ECHEMNET – European Chemical Emergency Network, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/projects/20121101/summary

2013

17. New health risks due to increased mobility in the context of globalisation (tourism, trade, travel, traffic) and global warming study report, http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/documents/health/new-health-risks-report_en.pdf

Third Health programme 2014-2020

2014

18. EMERGE (Joint Action) – Efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens at EU level, http://www.emerge.rki.eu/Emerge/EN/Home/Homepage_node.html
19. Cost-benefit of reference laboratories for human pathogens study report, https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/preparedness_response/docs/2016_laboratorieshumanpathogens_frep_en.pdf

2016

20. JAMRAI – Antibiotic resistance and Health Care Associated Infections (MRAI) Joint Action, <https://eu-jamrai.eu/>

2017

21. Healthy Gateways JA – preparedness and action at points of entry, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/projects/801493/summary
22. Contract for the organisation of a Training on entry and exit screening
23. Contract for the organisation of an inter-sectorial table top exercise on hybrid threats towards improving preparedness and strengthening capacity to coordinate response
24. Contract for organizing an inter-sectorial table top exercise on business continuity planning during a pandemic

Actions under preparation

2017

25. European Joint Action on Vaccination (JAV)

2018

26. Joint Action to strengthen preparedness including laboratories in the EU against serious cross-border threats to health and support the implementation of International Health Regulations (IHR)

Actions implemented to increase preparedness and responses and addressing Migrant Health issues

2009

1. PROMOVAX – Vaccination among Migrant Population in Europe, <http://www.promovax.eu>

2012

2. EQUI-HEALTH – Fostering health provision for migrants, the Roma, and other vulnerable groups (IOM Direct Grant Agreement), <http://equi-health.eea.iom.int/>

2013

3. MEM-TP: Training packages for health professionals to improve access and quality of health services for migrants and ethnic minorities, including the Roma, <http://www.mem-tp.org/>

2015

4. CARE – Common Approach for REFugees and other migrants' health, <http://careformigrants.eu/the-project/>
5. Re-HEALTH – Supported Member States under particular migratory pressure in their response to health related challenges, <http://re-health.eea.iom.int>
6. EUR-HUMAN – European Refugees – Human Movement and Advisory Network, <http://eur-human.uoc.gr/>
7. 8 NGOs for migrants/refugees' health needs in 11 countries, <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/projects/database.html?prjno=717307>
8. SH-CAPAC – Supporting health coordination, assessments, planning, access to health care and capacity building in Member States under particular migratory pressure, <http://www.sh-capac.org/>

2016

9. ORAMMA – Operational Refugee and Migrant Maternal Approach, <http://oramma.eu/>
10. MyHealth – Models to engage Migrants, Refugees and Ethnic Minorities in their health, through Community Empowerment and Learning Alliance, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/chafea_pdb/health/projects/738091/summary
11. Mig-Healthcare – Minimize health inequalities and improve the integration of vulnerable migrants and refugees into local communities, <http://www.mighealthcare.eu/>
12. Training of professionals working at local level with migrants and refugees contract
13. Pilot training of professionals specifically addressing mental health problems and communicable diseases contract
14. MIHKMA – Migration and Health Knowledge Management, <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-determinants/migration-and-health/news/news/2017/03/knowledge-management-project-launched-to-better-address-migrant-health-care-needs>

2017

15. Re-Health2 – Implementation of the Personal Health Record as a tool for integration of refugees in EU health systems, <http://re-health.eea.iom.int/re-health2>
16. Health status of newly arrived migrants and refugees in Europe contract, under evaluation
17. Feasibility of expert networks for rare pathologies linked to migration contract, under evaluation

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VENUE

The venue of the event is the Acropolis Museum at Dionysiou Areopagitou 15, Athens 117 42, Greece.

REGISTRATION DESK

The welcome & registration desk is located just outside the Auditorium, next to the main entrance.

It operates during the following timings:

Thursday, 07.06.2018: 08:30 – 19:00

Friday, 08.06.2018: 08:30 – 16:00

Cloakroom:

A cloakroom is available on the ground floor. The cloakroom is secured and will be open as follows:

Thursday, 07.06.2018: 08:30 – 19:00

Friday, 08.06.2018: 08:30 – 16:00

Wi-Fi:

Wi-Fi Internet connection is available free of charge at the venue.

The network is: Acropolis

Password: not required

AGENDA AND SPEAKERS

Please check the latest programme of the conference on the event guide.

LANGUAGES

Interpretation is available during working sessions from English to Greek and from Greek to English.

SATISFACTION SURVEY

A satisfaction survey will be sent to you in order to get your feedback on the event.

NB: Insurance. The European Commission will not be liable for any losses, accidents or damage to persons or objects, regardless of the cause. Participants attend the IHR conference at their own risk and responsibility. All participants are advised to take out necessary insurance on their own before travelling to the event.

Organizing Committee: ihrconference.keelpno@gmail.com

Eleonora Hadjipaschali – president	HCDCP
Elina Kefala	HCDCP
Eirini Lazana	HCDCP
Anna-Maria Leoutsi	HCDCP
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