

Second Regional Stakeholders Meeting to Review the implementation of the International Health Regulations in the Eastern Mediterranean

**12-14 December 2013
Amman, Jordan**

I. Introduction

The International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR) are an international agreement legally binding on 194 States Parties, including all WHO Member States. They entered into force on 15 June 2007. States Parties are obligated by the Regulations to develop, strengthen and maintain national minimum core public health capacities. The national core capacities are described in functional terms in Annex 1 of the Regulations and include surveillance and response capacities to public health events including capacities at designated points of entry.

The Regulations are intended to rapidly identify and stop the emergence and spread of public health risks including emergency events. These risks are not restricted to communicable diseases with epidemic and pandemic potential but apply across all relevant hazards of zoonotic, food safety, chemical, radiological.

The IHR set out a time frame within which States Parties are to develop, strengthen and maintain national core capacities. According to the provisions of Articles 5 and 13 and Annex 1 of the IHR, State Parties should have assessed their core capacities for surveillance and response, including at designated points of entry, by 15 June 2009. In addition, they should have developed a national IHR action plan for attaining core capacities by 15 June 2012 and institutionalized the mechanisms to maintain them after that date. National plans of action have been developed by all State Parties in the Region except Somalia. Out of the 21 State Parties of the IHR in the EMR, only the Islamic Republic of Iran has implemented its plan of action for meeting the IHR obligations by the target date of 15 June 2012. Other 19 State Parties obtained a two-year extension for implementing the capacities by 15 June 2014 and Somalia has not obtained extension as it did not comply with the extension requirements.

WHO EMRO organized IHR stakeholders meeting in November 2012 to map out the needs for implementing the IHR core capacities during the extension period of 2012-2014. Representatives from different ministries and sectors including the ministry of health from 21 Member States, technical institutions and donors participated in the meeting.

This meeting brought together stakeholders, partners, traditional and non-traditional donors from the sub-regional, regional and global levels to support IHR implementation as a collective responsibility that fosters global health security. The meeting highlighted the important work that has been done and what has been achieved since the IHR came into force and the specific priority areas for the development and/or maintenance of core capacities after June 2012. EMRO has been working since then to fill in the identified gaps through different activities.

It was agreed to carry out such a meeting on annual basis to review the implementation and identify further gaps for State Parties in meeting IHR obligations by June 2014.

II. Objectives of the meeting

- Review the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the first IHR stakeholders meeting conducted in Rabat between 12-15 November 2012;
- Identify the main achievements and existing gaps; and provide an opportunity for stakeholders to identify strategies; and
- Bridge the identified gaps, for countries in the Region.

III. Outcomes of the Meeting

The meeting was successful in

- Bringing together stakeholders, from national, sub-regional, regional and global levels to support IHR implementation.
- Highlighting the important work that has been done and what has been achieved since the Rabat Meeting.
- Reinforcing the roles and responsibilities of national, regional and global partners in providing technical support and in fostering inter-sectoral collaboration within countries and among countries to improve and maintain core capacities.
- Identifying gaps in capacity requirements and required activities to meet them at country level. These are described in details in the following section.

IV. Identified Gaps

a. Legislation, Coordination and IHR National Focal Point Communication

Key challenges:

- Establishment of a comprehensive legal framework to support IHR implementation can be a complicated and time-consuming process
- Empowering the IHR NFP to be effective in a complex, multi-sectoral environment

Key opportunities:

- Utilize experiences and lessons learned from Member States in the region that have completed the legislative review process
- Establish and maintain a multi-sectoral national IHR committee to ensure empowerment of the NFP and strengthen communication channels

Country Needs

Countries	Legislation	Expected support	Time frame
Overarching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better coordination across ministries on legislative issues - Review/update existing policies - Empower the focal point within the country and across all ministries. 		
Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of legislation 	Technical support of WHO	
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and ensure coordination for individual laws of Ministries to ensure they comply with IHR. - Strengthen the role of the NFP, increase HR resources and participate in high level meetings - Assessment of Legislation 	WHO review and recommendations WHO assist in providing technical support to ID how this correlates to IHR capacities Utilizing IAEA providing legislative support GCC countries to support legislation related to chemical, radiological and nuclear areas.	

Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have draft legislation adopted by the MoH and now need adoption by other sectors 	Technical support of WHO	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empowerment and operationalize legislation (workshops) - Strengthen coordination among the different sectors 	Technical and financial support from WHO and stakeholders	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empowerment and operationalize legislation (workshops) - Raising awareness (workshop) 	Technical and financial support from WHO and stakeholders	
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing the issue at high level across ministries to better coordinate reporting 	Advocacy from WHO	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Empowerment and operationalize legislation (workshops) - Need to implement and make into action the legislation part related to the functions of the IHR NFP. 	Technical and financial support from WHO and stakeholders	
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforce current legislation (MOH and other agencies); revise and review legislation from other sectors 	No need of external support	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislation updated with the involvement of the different sectors and ready to be sent to Parliament when it reconvenes for approval 	No need of external support	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of legislation 	Technical support of WHO	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to update public health regulations to continue to respond/adapt to IHR needs with the involvement of different Ministries. - Need legislation that identifies notification and reporting requirements to WHO for events not related to the MoH. - Empowering national committee to incorporate all the IHR core capacity elements; right now fragmented not all within one law/package of legislation. 	No need of external support	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting, identification, and response regulations and decrees needs to be updated. Ongoing work on chemical and radiological issues 	<p>WHO assist in providing technical support to ID how this correlates to IHR capacities</p> <p>Utilizing IAEA providing legislative support</p> <p>GCC countries to support legislation related to chemical, radiological and nuclear areas.</p>	
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of legislation (workshop) 	Technical support from WHO	
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No needed activities 	No need of external support	
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update existing policies - Need to implement and make into action the legislation part related to the functions of the IHR NFP. 	No need of external support	

Somalia	- Assessment of Legislation - Designation of IHR NFP	Technical support from WHO and other partners (Advocacy activities)	
Sudan	- Approvals and enforcing of IHR legislation	Technical support on legislation related to sub-issues such as PoE	
Syria	- Assessment of Legislation	Technical support from WHO and other partners	
Tunisia	- have agreements from some ministries and working on formalizing; need to work on formal legislation with approval of prime minister	Technical support on legislation related to sub-issues such as PoE	
UAE	- Address challenges in allocation of resources for NFP	WHO support in advocacy at different administrative levels.	
Yemen	- Assessment of Legislation	Technical support from WHO and other partners	

b. Surveillance, Preparedness and Response

KEY CHALLENGES

- All Member States must continue to strengthen both indicator-based surveillance and EBS to ensure early warning, alert, and response
- Lack of necessary financial and human resources to build and sustain surveillance and response capacities
- Minimal opportunities for training on development of preparedness plans
- Lack of multi-sectoral participation in development of all-hazards preparedness plans

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Use of the EBS guiding document to implement EBS in Member States
- Identify mechanisms to share information from surveillance systems in different sectors
- Establish and/or strengthen linkages between national emergency/disaster plans and public health all-hazards emergency preparedness plans
- WHO to provide technical support for development of preparedness plans

Country Needs

Countries	Surveillance, preparedness and Response	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	- Scaling up surveillance activities (including chemical and radiological), risk mapping needed across hazards - Involve all relevant sectors and ensure functionality from national to community levels		
Afghanistan	- Establish event based surveillance		
Bahrain	- Establish event-based surveillance strengthen surveillance of chemical, radiological and nuclear surveillance - Multi-hazard risk mapping. - Review national preparedness plans and update them based on the all hazard approach . - Establish a new electronic warning system; - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams	WHO technical support Technical expertise to provide training	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of stockpile plans - Engage private sector - Enhance electronic based surveillance system - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Review hazard specific plans including additional hazards chemical, radiological and nuclear plans with the involvement of all stakeholders and sectors. - Continue risk management and mapping across all-hazards - Expand the EWARN to include chemical and radiological and nuclear hazards. 		
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a new electronic warning system; - Implement event based surveillance - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards with the involvement of all sectors. - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Enhance national capacity of infection prevention and control - Development of stockpile plans 	WHO and other partners	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the surveillance system, - Establish Event Based Surveillance, - Engage private sector - Review National preparedness plan and update it based on all hazards. - Develop national plan/policy for antimicrobial resistance. 	Need tech assistance to review the whole plans, identify gaps FETP support	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve electronic and sentinel surveillance - Engage private sector - Review National preparedness plan and update it based on all hazards. - Develop national plan/policy for antimicrobial resistance. 	Technical support in particular for engagement of private sector	
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-hazard risk mapping - Monitoring and evaluating activities - Review and update national preparedness plans. 	No external support is needed.	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance electronic based surveillance system - Establish event based surveillance - Review National preparedness plan and update it based on all hazards. - Develop national plan/policy for antimicrobial resistance. 		

Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance electronic based surveillance system - Establish event based surveillance - Test the national preparedness plan - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Enhance national capacity of infection prevention and control - Development of stockpile plans 	Technical expertise to provide training	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance electronic based surveillance system - Test the national preparedness plan based on all hazards. - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Enhance national capacity of infection prevention and control - Development of stockpile plans 	Technical expertise to provide training	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen all hazard surveillance - Transitioning the technical expertise of WHO to national level. - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards 	WHO Technical Support	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish event-based surveillance - Develop Regional multi-hazard plan, need this at sub-regional multi hazard preparedness plans. - Review hazard specific plans including additional hazards chemical, radiological and nuclear plans with the involvement of all stakeholders and sectors. 	WHO Technical support	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue risk management and mapping across all-hazards - Reviewing national strategic plan at all levels - Review and update plans for preparedness and response to chemical, radiological and nuclear hazards 		
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of the institutions responsible for surveillance at provincial level and integration at national level - Transitioning the technical expertise of WHO to national level - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards - Strengthening of the provincial preparedness and response by identifying teams, training them and reviewing provincial plans and by getting equipment 	WHO Technical Support and other partners' technical and financial support	
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish electronic based surveillance 	WHO technical support to expand	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish Event based Surveillance - Improve surveillance of all hazards. - Review National preparedness plan and update it based on all hazards. - Develop national plan/policy for antimicrobial resistance. 	capacity	
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve electronic based surveillance - Expand the EWARN to include chemical and radiological and nuclear hazards. - Establish event based surveillance - Review National preparedness plan and update it based on all hazards. - Develop national plan/policy for antimicrobial resistance. 	No external support is needed.	
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen all hazard surveillance - Development of standardized guidelines and training on multi hazards surveillance - Transitioning the technical expertise of WHO to national level - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards 	WHO Technical Support	
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish event based surveillance - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards. - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Enhance national capacity of infection prevention and control - Development of stockpile plans 	Technical expertise to provide training	
Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen all hazard surveillance - Development of standardized guidelines and training on multi hazards surveillance - Transitioning the technical expertise of WHO to national level - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards 	WHO Technical Support	
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish event based surveillance - Review national plans and update them based on all hazards - Enhance capacity of Rapid Response Teams - Enhance national capacity of infection prevention and control - Development of stockpile plans 	Technical expertise to provide training	
UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-hazard risk mapping - Monitoring and evaluating activities - Review And update national preparedness plans 	No external support is needed.	
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen surveillance of all hazards 	WHO Technical Support	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish event based surveillance - Review national preparedness plan and update based on all hazards 		
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c. Risk Communication

KEY CHALLENGES

- Handling misinformation and rumors related to public health events
- Establishing and maintaining the trust necessary for effective risk communication

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- New WHO risk communication structure and scope to enhance support provided to Member States
- Establish effective mechanisms to communicate evidence-based information to the public

Country Needs

Countries	Risk Communication	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All need to review existing plans, and would like a training course at the regional level - All countries in need from help from the risk Communication team at WHO and other stakeholders 		
Afghanistan	-		
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to be able to train decision-makers and stakeholders on risk communication - Need to develop a National Risk Communication Plan 	WHO technical support	
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication 	WHO technical support	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to develop risk Communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication 	WHO technical support	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi stakeholders training on risk communication 	WHO technical support	
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review existing traditional strategies 	WHO technical support	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of human resources on risk communication - Develop risk communication plan. 	WHO technical support	
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication 	WHO technical support	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication 	WHO technical support	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication. 	WHO technical support	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and train spokesperson - Review current plans 	No external support is needed	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reviewing national strategic plan (RC 	WHO technical support	

	integrated in) - Additional trainings		
Pakistan	- Establishment of communication channels and mechanisms in all zones/provinces - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication	WHO technical support	
Qatar	- Multi stakeholders training on risk communication	No external support is needed	
Saudi Arabia	- Engaging all stakeholders (meetings in particular reinforcing with aviation sector)	No external support is needed	
Somalia	- Establishment of communication channels and mechanisms in all zones/provinces - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication	WHO technical support	
Sudan	- Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication	WHO technical support	
Syria	- Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication	WHO technical support	
Tunisia	- Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication	WHO technical support	
UAE	- Need plan for communication during public health emergencies and review of existing plans	No external support is needed	
Yemen	- Establishment of communication channels and mechanisms in all zones/provinces - Develop risk communication plan - Training of human resources on risk communication.	WHO technical support	

d. Laboratory

KEY CHALLENGES

- Accurately reporting on laboratory capacity via the IHR Monitoring Questionnaire
- Ensuring private sector laboratories are appropriately integrated into IHR laboratory capacities

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Complete and implement the regional strategic public health laboratory plan
- Identify appropriate staff to participate in laboratory trainings to ensure skills are built and maintained at the necessary levels

Country Needs

Countries	Laboratory	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	- Ongoing trainings on biosafety and biosecurity - SOPs and procedures		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bio-risk management assistance - Identification and training on best practices 		
Afghanistan	-		
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No identified activities - Assessment and enhancement of the capacity of laboratory testing for chemical, radiological, biological and nuclear hazards. - Facilitate networking capabilities outside the country. - Strengthen coordination between animal and human, and environmental laboratory. - Finalize a 5 year plan to enhance laboratory capacity. - Improve electronically reporting of laboratory data. - Establishment of laboratory quality management systems for Animal Quarantine lab and Environmental Lab (chemical and radiological). 	<p>No external support is needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Technical support from WHO and other organizations for chemical, biological zoonotic and radiation training -WHO and FAO Networking Support -No external Support as a meeting will be arranged by the labs to put the guidelines and SoPs for coordination among them and different sectors responsible for IHR implementation within 2 months. -No external Support needed and the available plans to be updated by the group members within 2 months. -No external Support required and an arrangement for network update will be done. In 3 months -WHO and other organization technical support 	
Djibouti	- Training of human resources	Technical support of WHO	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop policies and guidelines - Accreditation - Enhance biorisk management at district levels 	Technical support of WHO	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance laboratory capacity at district level - Enhance the capacity of human resources 		
Iran	- No identified activities	No external support is needed	
Jordan	- Enhance the capacity of human resources	No external support is needed	
Kuwait	- No activities identified	No external support is needed	
Lebanon	- Enhance governmental capacities	Technical support of WHO	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance laboratory capacity at provincial level - Establishment of laboratory quality management system - Strengthen coordination between animal 	Technical support of WHO and CDC	

	and human laboratory		
Morocco	- Biosafety and Biosecurity - Zoonotic biosafety and biosecurity	Technical support of WHO and CDC	
Oman	- Enhance capacity of laboratory testing for chemical, radiological and nuclear hazards. - Facilitate networking capabilities outside the country		
Pakistan	- Enhance laboratory capacity at provincial level - Establishment of laboratory quality management system - Strengthen coordination between animal and human laboratory	Technical support of WHO and CDC	
Qatar	- Finalize a 5 year plan to enhance laboratory capacity	No external support is needed	
Saudi Arabia	- Improve electronically reporting laboratory data. -	No external support is needed	
Somalia	- Assessment of laboratory requirements Enhance laboratory capacity at provincial level - Establishment of laboratory quality management system - Strengthen coordination between animal and human laboratory	Technical support of WHO and CDC	
Sudan	- Assessment of national laboratory capacity	Technical support of WHO	
Syria	- Enhance laboratory capacity at provincial level - Establishment of laboratory quality management system - Strengthen coordination between animal and human laboratory	Technical support of WHO and CDC	
Tunisia	- Assessment of laboratory capacity for chemical testing.	Technical support of WHO	
UAE	- No identified activities	No external support is needed	
Yemen	- Enhance laboratory capacity at provincial level - Establishment of laboratory quality management system - Strengthen coordination between animal and human laboratory	Technical support of WHO and CDC	

e. Points of Entry

KEY CHALLENGES

- Strengthening links between PoE and national surveillance and response systems, both within the health sector and with other relevant sectors

- Harmonization of requirements for capacities at PoE established by numerous international governing bodies and organizations

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Strengthening links between PoE and national surveillance and response systems, both within the health sector and with other relevant sectors
- Harmonization of requirements for capacities at PoE established by numerous international governing bodies and organizations

Country Needs

Countries	Points of Entry	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance cross-border collaboration - Training needs. Human Resources are one of the principal needs - Advocacy at high policy makers level; - Coordination with ICAO as well as with other PoE related partners. 		
Afghanistan	-		
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop procedures to harmonize animal quarantine at designated PoE needs. - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Training of human resources on requirements at PoE - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE. - Enhance inspection capacities of ships - Review and update legislation related to PoE 	Technical support of WHO	
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO and IOM	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO and IOM	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. 	Technical support of WHO and IOM	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 		
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No identified activities 	No external support is needed	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO and IOM	
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of human resources on requirements at PoE - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE. 	Technical support of WHO and ICAO	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of human resources on requirements at PoE 	No external support is needed	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry - Translation of guidelines and tools into Arabic 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Ship inspection capabilities - Training on vector surveillance and control, - Enhance inspection capacities of ships - Increase coordination between sectors 	No external support is needed	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review PoE Designation - Develop public health contingency plans at designated PoE 	No external support is needed	
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 		
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO	
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO	
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO	
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update list of designated PoE; - Training of human resources on requirements at PoE - Review and update legislation related to PoE - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE. 	Technical support of WHO	
Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry - Translation of guidelines and tools into 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO	

	Arabic		
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of contingency plans for designated PoE - Strengthen coordination between different sectors - Training on IHR requirements for PoE 	Technical support of WHO	
UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of designated PoE - Increase coordination and communication between sectors and levels of government (existing overlap); with NFP and public health surveillance systems 	No external support is needed	
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of capacity requirements at designated PoE - Development of contingency plans for each designated PoE. - Enhance capacity of human resources at PoE - Strengthen coordination with the aviation sector - Integrate surveillance activities at PoE with the national surveillance. - Review the list of designated Points of Entry - Translation of guidelines and tools into Arabic 	Technical support of WHO, ICAO	

f. Zoonosis and Food Safety

KEY CHALLENGES

- Weak disease surveillance systems and lack of laboratory diagnostic capacity for zoonotic pathogens
- Need for strong inter-sectoral cooperation to ensure safety and security of the food supply

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Develop basic, easy-to-use guidance outlining the roles and responsibilities among sectors and international organizations for response to zoonotic and food safety events
- Continue to coordinate and integrate among international organizations, such as WHO and FAO, to ensure rapid detection of and response to zoonotic events at global, regional, and national levels

Country Needs

Countries	Zoonosis and Food Safety	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mediterranean zoonosis center - Regional Workshop to revitalize efforts - 		
Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 		
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review joint surveillance activities - Enhance capacity of inspection of food at point of entry. - Enhance capacities of detection of chemical contamination food products. 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen related laboratory capacities - Enhance veterinary laboratory capacity - Conduct workshops for health inspectors to increase their skills. - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. - 		
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update related legislation 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop strategic plan for surveillance of zoonotic diseases; - Enhance integration of human-animal interface - Establish mechanism for detection and response to contaminated food products. - Review and update related regulations and laws 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct training and workshop and to reinforce some measures at points of entry with neighboring countries - Evaluate existing national plan for surveillance and response to zoonotic events - Enhance veterinary laboratory capacity - need engagement of all stakeholders - Conduct workshops for health inspectors to increase their skills. 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint surveillance from public health and animal health for zoonotic diseases - Surveillance system for chemical contamination of food 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zoonosis concern with rabies & specific programs - 		
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance networking with external institutions and laboratories 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO.	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance laboratory capacity - Review and update regulation related to food safety. 	Technical support of WHO	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a multi sectorial mechanism for the surveillance of zoonotic diseases - Development of a system for the control of zoonotic diseases by inter-sectorial and international collaboration in particular with neighboring countries. - Guide book for zoonotic diseases in Arabic 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. 		
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase coordination between sectors to reduce redundancies, focus on increasing coordination. - Establish clear links between INFOSAN and IHR focal points 	External support is not needed	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased communication and networking between sectors across the country - Establishment of information sharing platform (database) on food safety, to facilitate communication 	Technical support of WHO	
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a multi sectorial mechanism for the surveillance of zoonotic diseases - Development of a system for the control of zoonotic diseases by inter-sectorial and international collaboration in particular with neighboring countries. - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. - Enhance diagnostic capacities for zoonotic events at provincial levels. 	Technical support of WHO and financial support of donors	
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaboration with international institutes to support the ongoing work in Qatar 	Technical Support of WHO	
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize priorities and pursue meetings of technical steering committee - Strengthening and implementation of national plans, particularly those related to enhancing laboratory capacity. 	External support is not needed	
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a multi sectorial mechanism for the surveillance of zoonotic diseases - Development of a system for the control of zoonotic diseases by inter-sectorial and international collaboration in particular with neighboring countries. - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. - Enhance diagnostic capacities for zoonotic 	Technical support of WHO, OIE and FAO and financial support of donors	

	events at provincial levels		
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen capacity and links animal and human laboratories - Integration of surveillance and response to food safety activities at points of entry with national activities 	Technical and financial support from WHO, FAO, OIE and donors.	
Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a multi sectorial mechanism for the surveillance of zoonotic diseases - Development of a system for the control of zoonotic diseases by inter-sectorial and international collaboration in particular with neighboring countries. - Guide book for zoonotic diseases in Arabic - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. 	Technical and financial support from WHO, FAO, OIE and donors.	
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance links between animal and human laboratories. - Enhance national capacities for food safety. 	External support is not needed	
UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase collaboration between sectors - Enhance rapid communication to NFP on food borne diseases and food contamination - Strengthen the link between INFOSAN focal point with IHR focal point. 	External support is not needed	
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a multi sectorial mechanism for the surveillance of zoonotic diseases - Development of a system for the control of zoonotic diseases by inter-sectorial and international collaboration in particular with neighboring countries. - Guide book for zoonotic diseases in Arabic - Assessment of existing system for food safety. - Enhance capacities for detection, investigation and reporting of food safety events. 	Technical and financial support from WHO, FAO, OIE and donors.	

g. Chemical Hazards

KEY CHALLENGES

- Few countries in the regional have established poison control centers
- Lack of a multi-sectoral coordination mechanism for chemical hazards / events

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Engage all stakeholders to ensure accurate reporting to WHO that accurately reflects chemical hazard capacity in the region

- Actively participate in the upcoming WHO regional meeting on chemical hazards under the IHR to develop a plan of action for strengthening capacities in this area

Country Needs

Countries	Chemical	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance capacity of poison control center - Establish Sub-Regional reference labs; - Strengthen Chemical Safety program - Conduct regional workshop with all stakeholders to revise all pillars before Feb-June 2014. 		
Afghanistan	-		
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simulation/testing of existing plans - Risk assessment and mapping of chemical hazards. - Enhance the capacity of biochemical monitoring. - Strengthen laboratory capacity for environmental hazard testing - Establishment of poison control center - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects - Enhance the detection capacity of chemical hazards - Conduct table top/drill exercises - Strengthen capacity for monitoring pesticide residues. - Review legislation for pesticides - Develop SOPs to manage cases with chemical contamination. - Update chemical safety policies - Review plans for chemical event response - Develop SOPs on handling of patients after chemical exposures - Develop national database for chemicals, - Enhance laboratory capacity for detection and monitoring of chemical exposures - Risk management for chemical events 	WHO Technical support; evaluation and lab assessment and advocacy	
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical 	Technical support of WHO and donors	

	related subjects		
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update national plans - Enhance the detection capacity of chemical hazards - Conduct table top/drill exercises 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct workshops to train human resources - Enhance capacity of detecting chemical hazards including laboratory capacity. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate work across relevant ministries - Develop plans for handling and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen capacity for monitoring pesticide residues. 	No external support is needed.	
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No identified activities 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update related legislation - Enhance laboratory capacity for chemical testing. - Enhance risk communication 	Technical support of WHO	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance surveillance of chemical events. 	Technical support of WHO	
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects - Enhance coordination with neighboring countries to address related chemical issues. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a strategy and national plan for preparedness and response to chemical events - Strengthen coordination between the IHR NFP and the Center for Excellence (Ministry of Interior) - Develop SOPs to manage cases with chemical contamination. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update chemical safety policies - Review plans for chemical event response - Develop SOPs on handling of patients after chemical exposures - Develop national database for chemicals, - Enhance laboratory capacity for detection and monitoring of chemical exposures - Risk management for chemical events 	Technical support of WHO	
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the 	Technical support of WHO and donors	

	<p>relevant sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects - Enhance coordination with neighboring countries to address related chemical issues. 		
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review legislation for pesticides - Strengthen coordination with sectors deals with chemical events. 	External support is not needed.	
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize national plans 	External support is not needed.	
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects - Enhance coordination with neighboring countries to address related chemical issues. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of human resource on management of chemical injuries - Enhance laboratory capacity for chemical testing. - Enhance surveillance of chemical hazards - Enhance risk communication 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Syria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects - Enhance coordination with neighboring countries to address related chemical issues. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for human resource, - Strengthen coordination among the different sectors - Enhance laboratory capacity for chemical testing. 	Technical support of WHO and donors	
UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment and strengthening of poison information center 	Technical support of WHO	
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to chemical hazards. - Strengthen coordination at the different administrative levels and among the relevant sectors. - Training of human resources on chemical related subjects 	Technical support of WHO and donors	

	- Enhance coordination with neighboring countries to address related chemical issues.		
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h. Radiological and Nuclear Hazards

KEY CHALLENGES

- Radiological and nuclear events require strong inter-sectoral coordination efforts which are lacking in many Member States
- Response to radiological and nuclear events governed by multiple international organizations

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- Participate in relevant international and regional networks and establish regional and bi-lateral agreements between Member States to ensure coordination, communication, and support during radiological events
- Use the requirements of the IHR to strengthen multi-sectoral coordination and enhance national capability to respond to radiological events

Country Needs

Countries	Radiological and Nuclear	Expected Support	Time frame
Overarching activities	- Overarching: control of movements and consumption of materials as well as health care, treatment and response in case of exposure to radiological (mainly) or nuclear accidents. - Need to have operational plans for each agency.		
Afghanistan	-		
Bahrain	- Training on clinical and case management - Enhance capacity of Bioassay analysis - Enhance capacity of decontamination programs - Carry out table top/ drill exercises. - Develop SOP and guidelines on preparedness and response to radiological and nuclear hazards. - Enhance national capacities to monitor human exposure to radiological and nuclear events. - Enhance laboratory capacity for testing of radiological and nuclear hazards. - Risk assessment and risk mapping - Enhance access to information on treatment and management of cases contaminated with radiological and nuclear events. -	WHO technical support	
Djibouti	- Risk assessment - Enhance the capacity of border control	WHO technical support and other partners.	
Egypt	- Strengthen national coordination at the different administrative levels - Training of human resources on responding to radiological and nuclear hazards.	WHO technical support in coordination with the national atomic energy.	

	- Carry out Table top/drill exercises		
Iraq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen national coordination at the different administrative levels - Training of human resources on responding to radiological and nuclear hazards. - Carry out Table top/drill exercises 	WHO technical support in coordination with the national relevant institutions.	
Iran	- Develop a mechanism for coordination across sectors with IHR NFP	WHO technical support	
Jordan	- Risk assessment	WHO technical support	
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of related legislation - Networking - Assessment of the national capacity of preparedness and response to radiological and nuclear hazards. 	WHO technical support	
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need PPE and supplies - Develop SOP and guidelines on preparedness and response to radiological and nuclear hazards. - enhance the capacity of borders control - Training for 1st line responders 	National partners to help with equipment. Support of WHO and institute of public health, Red Cross is needed for the other activities.	
Libya	- Control of movements of radiological substances	International organizations and Cross border collaborations with the help of WHO and IAEA	
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk assessment - Training on case management, safety issues and decontamination. 	No external support is needed.	
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to have clear guidelines for clinical management and response to radiological and nuclear events. - PPE for first responders - Enhance capacity of decontamination and update related SOPs. - Enhance access to information on treatment and management of cases contaminated with radiological and nuclear events. - Purchase detection equipment and install at potential hazardous areas. - Enhance national capacities to monitor human exposure to radiological and nuclear events. - Integrate surveillance of radiological and nuclear events with the existing event-based surveillance. 	WHO Technical guidance on issues related to clinical and public health response and on guidelines and training on decontamination.	
Pakistan	- Enhance coordination at the different administrative levels and with the different sectors including with IHR NFP	International organizations and Cross border collaborations with the help of WHO and IAEA	
Qatar	- Review and enhance national approach to	need technical support to review and	

	reach a level of excellence in their plan for transportation, disposal, etc	advance approach as minimum with the IHR requirements	
Saudi Arabia	- need to get their plan operational	Not needed	
Somalia	- Risk assessment and mapping.	International organizations and Cross border collaborations with the help of WHO and IAEA	
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk assessment and mapping; - Enhance laboratory capacity for testing of radiological and nuclear hazards. - Purchase detection equipment and install them in potential hazardous areas. - Training for human resources on management of cases infected with radiological and nuclear hazards. - Training of 1st line responders to radiological and nuclear hazards. 	Technical assistance of WHO and IAEA	
Syria	- Control of movements of radiological substances	International organizations and Cross border collaborations with the help of WHO and IAEA	
Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review legislation; - Carry out risk assessment and mapping - Update national plan on preparedness and response to radiological and nuclear hazards. 	External support is not needed	
UAE	- No identified activities	External support is not needed.	
Yemen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national plan for preparedness and response to radiological and nuclear hazards and integrate it in the national plan. - Develop SOP for the management of cases infected with radiological and nuclear hazards. - Training of human resources on the on management of cases infected with radiological and nuclear hazards. - Training of 1st line responders to radiological and nuclear hazards. 	Technical assistance of WHO and IAEA	