

**Memo for the participants to the
Workshop C “Controlling infectious diseases in the EuroMed region”
Sunday 16 November 2008 at 14.30 and 17.00**

The main question that will be addressed in this workshop is the coordination of monitoring and surveillance systems of communicable diseases (CD) across the shores of the Mediterranean. Please review the following points in order to enhance the discussion during the Workshop.

1. What is the current situation regarding CD in the Euro-Mediterranean region?

- Are the countries in the region facing threats of common CD?
- Are the monitoring and surveillance systems of CD in the region organized to be helpful to face common threats?
- Is there an alert platform for CD outbreak in the region?

2. What are the needs, priorities and common health challenges for CD in the region?

- Surveillance (case definitions, IHR, data exchange)
- Communication and alerts
- Training
- Others

3. Are there actions in place addressing these needs?

- Are there regional cooperation activities in place?
- Are there networking projects in place (e.g. Episouth Network)?

4. Are there possible solutions for a common response?

- Which would be the added value of a common regional action?
- Should be used the framework of the *Barcelona process-Union for the Mediterranean*?
- Is the Networking tool useful for common action?

5. What are essential components of joint programmes and projects in the region?

- Strengthening the existing framework of collaboration and existing networks of organizations for the surveillance and control of CD
- Enhancing partnership and co-ownership by all areas of the region (South Europe, Balkans, Middle-East, North Africa)
- Guaranteeing political commitment by the national health authorities to support the needed network
- Ensuring adequate financing mean for sustaining needed network

*2nd EuroMed Ministerial Conference on Health
Cairo, 16-17 November 2008*



Workshop C




Controlling infectious diseases in the EuroMed region

Cairo, 16 November 2008

Silvia Declich

Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) Rome, Italy
(Italian National Institute of Health)

Workshop Goals

-  To review the current situation, the needs, the current actions addressing these needs, possible solutions, perspectives for joint programmes and projects in the region
-  To prepare and focus the discussions of the ministers of tomorrow
-  To allow personal contacts between high officials in order to facilitate future cooperation

1. What is the current situation regarding CD in the Euro-Mediterranean region?



- Are the countries in the region facing threats of common CD?
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2. What are the needs, priorities and common health challenges for CD in the region?



- Surveillance (case definitions, data exchange, IHR)
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3. Are there actions in place addressing these needs?



• Are there regional cooperation activities in place?

• Are there networking projects in place (e.g. Episouth Network)?

EU network

- ✓ Euvac-net → vaccine preventable diseases
- ✓ Venice → vaccination
- ✓ DipNet → diphtheria
- ✓ Enter-net → food and water borne diseases
- ✓ EISS → influenza
- ✓ EWRS → Early Warning and Response System
- ✓ ShipSan → health threat on cruise ships and ferries



Regional network

- ✓ EuroHIV → HIV in European region
- ✓ EuroTB → TB in European region
- ✓ EWGLI → legionella in European region
- ✓ MECACAR → polio, measles and rubella in E.Mediterranean, Caucasus, Central Asian Republics
- ✓ MENA Health Policy Forum → for M. East and N. Africa
- ✓ SEE Health Network → for Balkan region
- ✓ EpiSouth Network → for Mediterranean region



4. Are there possible solutions for a common response?



- Which would be the added value of a common regional action?
- Should be used the framework of the *Barcelona process-Union for the Mediterranean*?
- Is the Networking tool useful for common action?