



IHR COUNTRY CAPACITY MONITORING, EVALUATION AND PLANNING

newsletter
February 2018

In focus

> EURO - High level Meeting on Accelerating the Implementation of the IHR and Strengthening Emergency Preparedness in the WHO European Region

> EMRO - IHR-PVS National Bridging Workshop and After Action Review in Morocco

> Simulation Exercise and After Action Review consultation, Geneva

Zoom in

> EMRO - NAPHS implementation in Pakistan - Interview of Dr. Malik Muhammad Safi

WHO helps ensure the regular cross-sectoral assessment of countries' core capacities as required under the International Health Regulations (IHR); and the development of National Action Plans for Health Security (NAPHS). This is done through the provision of support for national assessments, risk profiling and after action reviews; operational readiness; planning, costing, documentation, and simulation exercises; and building monitoring and evaluating capacity with a One Health approach.

High level Meeting on Accelerating the Implementation of the IHR and Strengthening Emergency Preparedness in the WHO European Region, 13-15 February, Munich, Germany



A 3-day high-level meeting, hosted and financially supported by Germany, concluded in Munich on 15 February 2018 marking a milestone in preparing for and responding to more complex and demanding health emergencies in the European region.

Linking IHR, health systems and AMR

Over 150 representatives from 43 countries, signatories of the International Health Regulations (IHR) and international organizations discussed effective ways to accelerate the implementation of the IHR with a particular focus on synergies between three major areas: IHR core capacities, health systems and public health functions, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

While responsive health systems are an integral part of IHR implementation, efforts to strengthen the IHR core capacities largely contribute to improve health systems' resilience. At the same time, addressing AMR is a priority since the increase of resistant bacteria can make disease outbreaks more difficult to control and increase the burden on health systems.

Progressing towards a regional action plan: The cross linkages between IHR, health systems and public health functions are central to Europe's first action plan on emergency preparedness and response that was initiated in Munich. The 5-year *European Action Plan to Improve Public Health Preparedness and Response*

(2018–2023) draws on the draft global strategic plan and is based on three pillars: 1) Preparedness: building, maintaining, and strengthening IHR core capacities; 2) Response: enhancing event management according to IHR requirements; 3) Monitoring and evaluation: measuring progress and promoting accountability on IHR implementation. WHO/Europe will undertake additional consultations to further shape the action plan, which will be presented to Member States at the 68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe in September 2018.

Providing a platform for improved collaboration: The IHR (2005) provide an international legal framework for countries worldwide to protect people from health emergencies. Most meeting participants concurred that IHR have helped countries improving the collaboration among different entities and institutions dealing with health emergencies.

Full story available at:

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/germany/news/news/2018/2/european-region-countries-convene-to-boost-emergency-preparedness-and-response>

IHR-PVS NATIONAL BRIDGING WORKSHOP AND AFTER ACTION REVIEW IN MOROCCO, 22-26 JANUARY



The OIE and WHO organized a four-day workshops in Rabat, Morocco, from 22 to 26 January 2018, combining the methodology and process of two tools: the IHR-PVS¹ bridging and the after-action review.

Convening together 46 participants coming from medical and veterinary sectors (from national, regional and local levels), the workshop was officially opened by the Director of the Department of Epidemiology and Diseases (Ministry of Health) and by the Chief Veterinary Officer (Ministry of Agriculture).

WHO and OIE have developed the NBW with a specific methodology that enable countries to further explore possible overlapping areas in the framework of "One Health". A structured approach using user-friendly material, case studies and group exercises enabled the identification of strengths and weaknesses in the current intersectoral collaboration for 16 key technical areas. Disease-specific and system specific weaknesses were discussed and JEE (mission conducted in 2016 in Morocco) and PVS (mission conducted in 2013 in Morocco) reports were open to extract key recommendations and potential synergies between the two frameworks.

¹ International Health Regulations and Performance of Veterinary Services

PMAC 2018

MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FROM
THE THREATS OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES
19 JANUARY - 3 FEBRUARY 2018 | BANGKOK, THAILAND

Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC) 2018, Bangkok, Thailand January 29-03 February

WHO participated in several side events as well as the main conference during the PMAC in Bangkok, Thailand.

In addition to presenting the work done in the last year on IHR Monitoring and Evaluation during the main conference, CME co-organized a 2-day workshop with the World Bank on Sustainable Financing and Building Resilient Systems. CME also participated in the USAID organized event on One Health, and the WHO SEARO workshop on Global Health Security and Health Systems.



Joint External Evaluation (JEE) Team Leads Training 21-22 February, Vienna Austria.

The European Regional Office (EURO) hosted a JEE team lead training in Vienna, bringing together over 20 participants from countries of the European Region, Western Pacific, African and Eastern Mediterranean Regions, as well as institutions such as the European CDC Participants evaluated the training as being very useful and important for them to successfully lead JEEs.

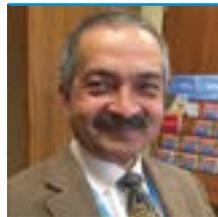
The process was then enriched by incorporating an after-action-review (AAR) on the epidemic of brucellosis that occurred in Layoune Province in 2017. The AAR is a qualitative review of actions taken to respond to an emergency is conducted as a means of identifying best practices, gaps and lessons learned.

Using the results of these discussions and exercises, the two sectors identified joint activities that they wanted to implement in order to improve their collaboration and to strengthen their capacity to prevent, detect and respond to zoonotic disease events and other public health risks at

the animal-human interface (food safety, food security, anti-microbial resistance). An electronic voting system was used to prioritize the different activities. In a final session, the NAPHS was presented and compared to the outputs of the workshops to see how they could help enrich the plan.

The workshop was very interactive and productive. An evaluation form was used to collect feedback from participants: 97% answered they were satisfied with the workshop and 100% said they would recommend it to other countries.

A short video of the four days is available at: www.bit.ly/NBW_AAR_Maroc



ZOOM IN:

NAPHS IMPLEMENTATION IN PAKISTAN - EXTRACTS FROM THE INTERVIEW OF DR. MALIK MUHAMMAD SAFI, PROGRAMS DIRECTOR - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, REGULATIONS & COORDINATION

During the JEE, how did you gather information which took account of the various stakeholders and sectors across the country?

Dr Safi: Both at the National and Provincial levels, focal persons from each line ministry were involved throughout the process. This helped in team building across the sectors of the country. Before the JEE, we all worked in silos, not aware of another sector's work under the IHR or the PVS/OIE. These focal persons helped us in getting relevant information as required per the JEE questionnaire that kept us focused.

How has the IHR-PVS National Bridging Workshop (NBW) contributed to the national planning?

Dr Safi: it has contributed significantly as it made all One health stakeholders sit together and it helped Pakistan in realizing that such coordination was absolutely necessary and no work in silos would help.

The workshop also helped in creating a network of experts from the animal health and public health sectors at both National and provincial levels which never existed before. Joint coordination, planning and sharing of information are crucial to fend

off and manage disease outbreaks in the future.

What are the three key recommendations you would propose to other countries undergoing the JEE/NAPHS process to ensure success?

Dr Safi: The three key requirements are:

1. Strong support from highest levels for JEE and NAPHS;
2. Strong coordination mechanisms across the sectors with notified focal persons which will ensure thorough consultative process leading to ownership of JEE results & NAPHS;
3. Clarity of concept on one health & JEE process and that we need to be forthcoming in admitting our weaknesses and giving scores accordingly. This will result in a very realistic baseline.

It is important to note that such a multi-sectoral activity has never before been attempted in Pakistan and the ground-breaking approach has been appreciated as a case study for regional countries by the WHO's Independent Oversight & Advisory Committee (IOAC).

You can download Dr Safi's complete interview at the following link: www.bit.ly/Interview_Safi



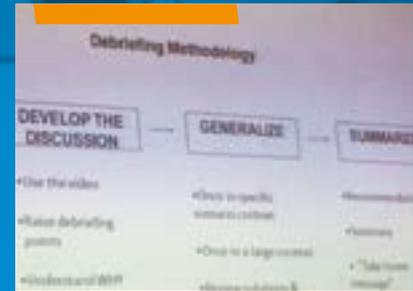
COMING UP NEXT

- > **Tripartite Zoonoses Guide Expert Workshop in Geneva,**
26-28 February 2018
- > **EMRO Consultation on all hazard Risk Assessment and Planning, Egypt,**
27-28 February 2018
- > **Contingency Planning Meeting in Ethiopia,**
February 26-02 March
- > **NAPHS review and costing workshop in Mauritania,**
5-8 March 2018
- > **After Action Review on Marburg outbreak in Uganda,**
5-8 March 2018
- > **Consultation on the revised IHR self-assessment annual reporting tool in Geneva,**
7-8 March 2018
- > **IHR-PVS National Bridging Workshop,**
12-15 March 2018
- > **Simulation Exercise in Nigeria,**
12-15 March 2018
- > **Chemical Preparedness and Response Course in Turkey,**
19-23 March 2018
- > **Review Workshop on NAPHS process, bench marking and costing tools in Geneva,**
27-29 March 2018

For an update on the IHR monitoring, evaluation and planning activities, please read the weekly update or visit the Strategic Partnership Portal at: <https://extranet.who.int/spp/>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WHO would like to acknowledge the active participation of national experts from volunteering countries, the members of the international roster of experts, and the invaluable partnerships with governments including the governments of Finland, Germany, and the United States; with other Intergovernmental organizations, particularly the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); many public health institutions such as the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the European CDC (ECDC) and Public Health England (PHE); private entities such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and many other partners, including the members of the Global Health Security Agenda and of the JEE Alliance.; WHO would like to acknowledge the continuing support and commitment of all of these to the implementation and principles of the International Health Regulations (2005).



Global Consultation on After Action Reviews (AAR) and Simulation Exercises (SimEx) under the IHR Technical Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, Geneva 20 - 21 February

The meeting brought together over 45 participants including 5 WHO Regional Offices, countries and partner institutions to review current tools, processes, methodologies and identify areas for improvement. At the end of the meeting agreement was reached on the key components for a roadmap to effectively implement AAR and SimEx, including on sharing of the results from these.

EMRO Consultation on all hazard Risk Assessment and Planning, Egypt 27- 28 February

The consultation objectives are to conduct an all hazards risk assessment and develop a regional risk profile using the Strategic Tool for Assessing Risks (STAR tool). Approximately 30 participants from selected WHO regional offices, HQ and countries are expected to be represented at this meeting.

CONTACTS

For queries, contact Dr Stella Chungong - chungongs@who.int
WHO International Health Regulations website - <http://www.who.int/ihr/procedures/implementation/en/>
Strategic Partnership portal - <https://extranet.who.int/spp/>