



Health threats and the European Commission

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Health Threats Unit

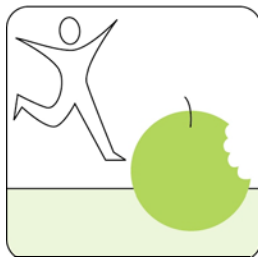
Public Health and Risk Assessment Directorate
Health and Consumers
Directorate-General
(DG SANCO)

Health and Consumers DG

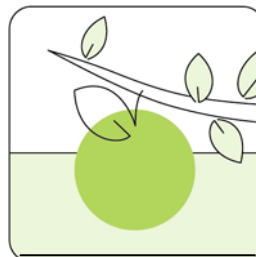
DG SANCO

DG de la santé et des consommateurs

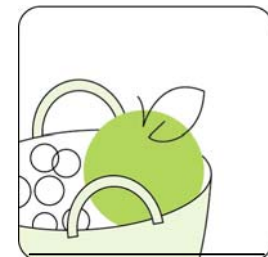
Europe working for healthier, safer,
more confident citizens



Public Health



Food safety



Consumer Affairs



EU legal framework on health

The treaty on European Union and the treaty establishing the European Community

- Article 152 (Public health article) in Title XIII Public Health
 - European Commission shall encourage cooperation between the Member States
 - Member States shall, in liaison with the Commission, coordinate among themselves
 - The Commission may, in close contact with the Member States, take any useful initiative to promote such coordination (i.e. Public Health Programme)
 - Setting high standards of quality and safety of organs and substances of human origin, blood and blood derivatives (Directives)
 - The Council may also adopt recommendations from the Commission set out in this Article (e.g. cancer screening, Antimicrobial resistance (AMR), smoking in public places)
 - The Commission shall fully respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care

Other EU legal framework related to health

The treaty on European Union and the treaty establishing the European Community

- Title VI Common rules of competition, taxation and approximation of laws
 - Article 95 (Internal market) legal basis used for tobacco directives, for example
- Title XIV Consumer protection
 - Article 153
- Title XVIII Research and Technological development
 - Articles 163-173

Health threats

- Surveillance, reporting and prevention of communicable diseases
- Exercises, preparedness planning
- Health Security
- Mainstreaming health threats in other policies
- Health Programme (in collaboration with EAHC)

Health threats

Surveillance, reporting and prevention of communicable diseases

- Network on communicable diseases
 - Council decision 2119/1998 Early Warning and Response
- Early Warning and Response System (EWRS)
 - Council decision 97/2000 Early Warning and Response
- ECDC
 - Council regulation 851/2004
- International Health Regulation (IHR) link between EU system and IHR alerts

Health threats

Surveillance, reporting and prevention of communicable diseases

- Revision of legal framework for integrated EU health threats approach (all threats including CBRN)
- Vaccine policy coordination
- Pandemic flu preparedness
- Tuberculosis
- AMR (Antimicrobial resistance)

Health threats

Exercises, preparedness planning

- EU Public Health Crisis management
 - HEOF (Health emergency operations facility)
- Training and exercises
- Generic preparedness planning
 - GPP Technical document
 - Communicators' network
 - Stockpiling
- Climate change
- Bio-security
- Modelling



Technical guidance document

Generic Preparedness Planning

- Information management
- Communication
- Scientific advice
- Health crisis management structures
- Health sector preparedness
 - Incident management outside hospital
 - Hospital preparedness
- Inter-sectorial collaboration
- Co-ordination of actions within EC
- Management of plans



Health threats

Health security

- Health Security Committee
- Global Health Security Initiative
- Laboratories (bio-security)
- Research on health security





Health Security Committee HSC

- Council conclusions 17 December 2001
 - Informal cooperation and coordination body by Health Ministers and the European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection
- Council conclusions 22 February 2007
 - Transitional prolongation of the HSC mandate 2007-2009
- Council conclusions 16 December 2008 (after informal Health Ministers meeting Angers, 8-9 September 2008)
 - Provide HSC with legal basis
 - Legislative initiative to adopt the status of HSC to the health challenges

Global Health Security Initiative (GHSI)

■ Launched 2001

- Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, United Kingdom, USA,
- European Commission
- WHO (observer)

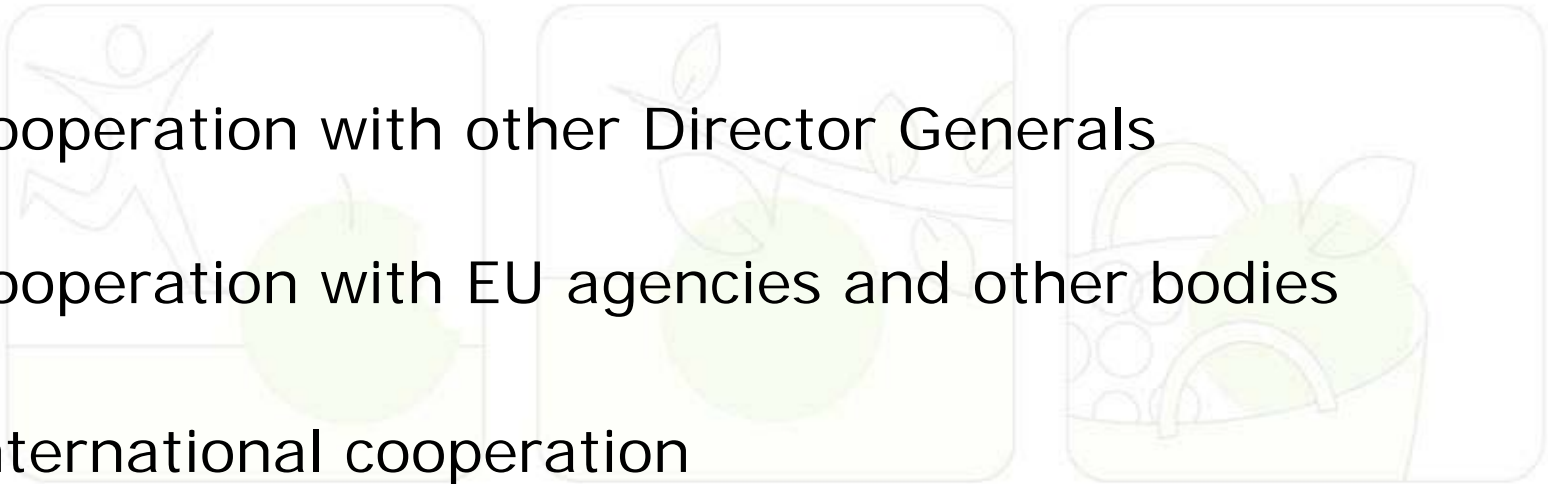
■ Aim

- A platform for G7 countries, Mexico, European Commission and WHO to exchange information and share experiences on ways to address chemical, biological and radio-nuclear (CBRN) threats

Health threats

Mainstreaming health threats in other policies

- Cooperation with other Director Generals
- Cooperation with EU agencies and other bodies
- International cooperation





Health threats

Health Programme

- **Art 152 of the Treaty:** legal basis for EU action in public health
- **EU Health Strategy:** puts in place an overarching, strategic framework for work on health at the EU level, and sets the direction of travel for the coming years
- **The Health Programme:** the European Commission's main instrument for implementing the EU health strategy
 - Improve citizens' health security and safety
 - Promote health to improve prosperity and solidarity
 - Generate and disseminate health knowledge



Health threats Health Programme

■ Annual Work Plan

- Call for proposals
- Operating grants NGOs specialized networks
- Call for conference proposals
- Joint actions by the Community and Member States and 3rd countries participating in the Programme
- Tendering actions

■ € 353.77 million budget for 2003-2007

■ € 321.5 million suggested budget for 2008-2013

Health threats

Health Programme Work Plan 2010

■ Improve citizens' security

- Develop prevention and control of existing and emerging communicable diseases
- Improve preparedness for and response to health emergencies, including climate change, issues related to pandemic influenza and interregional cooperation
- Enhance existing response capacity against attacks of biological, chemical and radio-nuclear agents

■ Improve citizens' safety

- Develop prevention in the field of patient safety
- Scientific advice and risk assessment

Health Programme projects

Examples in the health threats area (1/3)

- ASHT
 - Alerting System and Development of a Health Surveillance System for the Deliberate Release of Chemicals by Terrorists
- CIE TOOLKIT
 - The Public Health Response to Chemical Incident Emergencies
- Climate-TRAP
 - Climate Change Adaptation by TRaining, Assessment and Preparedness
- EURO-MOMO
 - European monitoring of excess mortality for public health action

Health Programme projects

Examples in the health threats area (2/3)

■ ETHREAT

- European Training for Health professionals on Rapid Response to Health Threats

■ HEALTHREAT

- Integrated Decision Support System for HEALTH THREATS and crisis management

■ IPPHEC

- Improve the Preparedness to give Psychological Help in Events of Crisis

■ MASH

- MASs-casualties and Health-care following the release of toxic chemicals and radioactive materials

Health Programme projects

Examples in the health threats area (3/3)

- ORCHIDS
 - Evaluation, optimisation, trialling and modelling procedures for mass casualty decontamination
- PHLawFlu
 - Public Health Law to support Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
- SIDARTHa
 - European Emergency Data-based System for Information on, Detection and Analysis of Risk and Threats to Health
- WHO Health security
 - Support health security, preparedness planning and crisis management in EU, EU accession and neighbouring (ENP) countries

Health Programme project (WHO/EURO) Support health security, preparedness planning and crisis management in EU, EU accession and neighbouring (ENP) countries

- Expected results (1/2)
 - Standardized tool kit to assess country health security performance refined
 - Country assessment reports produced and disseminated
 - Health system crisis preparedness reference package including
 - Health system preparedness planning checklist
 - Minimum standards and benchmarks
 - Key indicators for monitoring progress
 - Standard template for lessons learned

Health Programme WHO project Support health security, preparedness planning and crisis management in EU, EU accession and neighbouring (ENP) countries

■ Expected results (2/2)

- National action plans aimed at addressing health system preparedness gaps in target countries produced and endorsed by the Ministries of Health
- Standardized tool to assess the level of crisis preparedness of EMS providers disseminated to European Member States
- Agreement among participating countries on future actions for improvement and co-ordination of EMS structures and their preparedness to crisis