

Concept Note

Accelerating progress in the Real-Time Biosurveillance Action Package of GHSA

March 26-28, 2018, Tbilisi, Georgia

1. Background

As a lead country for the Real-Time Surveillance Action Package, Georgia is convening an international meeting regarding communicable disease surveillance within the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA). Georgia's focal point for GHSA and International Health Regulations (2005), together with the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, is organizing the event, which is the first of its kind. Furthermore, Georgia is chairing The Biosurveillance Network of the Silk Road (BNSR) – a multi-national partnership - consisting of Human and Animal Health practitioners from different countries and looks forward to sharing this surveillance model with meeting participants.

The topic for the GHSA meeting is ***“Accelerating progress in the Real-Time Biosurveillance Action Package of GHSA”***. The meeting is being held on **March 26-28, 2018, in Tbilisi, Georgia**, and will bring together GHSA partner countries, contributing countries of Real-Time Surveillance Action Package, and international partner organizations supporting the strengthening of capacities to detect infectious disease threats within the Real-Time Surveillance Action Package and other cross-cutting packages.

2. Meeting objectives:

2.1 Strengthen partnerships with GHSA partner/contributing countries of the Real-Time Surveillance Action Package and engage and strengthen collaborations with non-governmental organizations and international partners;

2.2 Exchange best practice and share experiences on

- Building capacity to meet compliance with International Health Regulations (moving country score up to green on the IHR-JEE tool).
- Implementation of integrated electronic systems
- Regional approach for communicable disease surveillance

- Community Based Surveillance as part of Event Based Surveillance
- Use of biosurveillance data for public health action
- Strengthening integrated disease surveillance systems which facilitate a One Health approach to disease detection and control

2.3 Promote collaboration at country and regional level with other Action Package activities in a cross-cutting manner as a sustainable pathway to health security overall.

2.4 Sustain surveillance: to provide funding to surveillance as a cost-effective investment

2.5 Discuss expectations and strategy for the Real-Time Surveillance Action Package

3. Expected outcomes

3.1 Regional communicable disease surveillance approaches encouraged

3.2 Knowledge on insights into disease surveillance through sharing of best practices updated

3.3 Recommendations developed for better planning and operationalization of disease surveillance systems

3.4 Next steps for Real-Time Surveillance Action Package defined

Participants:

- *Real-Time Surveillance Action Package* contributing countries (**2 technical experts from each country; one from human and one from animal health sector**).

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. <i>Argentina</i> | 12. <i>Kenya</i> |
| 2. <i>Azerbaijan</i> | 13. <i>Mexico</i> |
| 3. <i>Bangladesh</i> | 14. <i>Mongolia</i> |
| 4. <i>Cote d'Ivoire</i> | 15. <i>Norway</i> |
| 5. <i>Ethiopia</i> | 16. <i>South Africa</i> |
| 6. <i>Finland</i> | 17. <i>United Kingdom</i> |
| 7. <i>Ghana</i> | 18. <i>United States</i> |
| 8. <i>Guinea-Bissau</i> | 19. <i>Yemen</i> |
| 9. <i>Indonesia</i> | 20. <i>Zimbabwe</i> |
| 10. <i>Israel</i> | |
| 11. <i>Italy</i> | |

- Members of Biosurveillance Network of the Silk Road: *Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Kazakhstan.*
- Countries included in the Norwegian Global Health Preparedness Project: *Ghana, Malawi, Palestine, Moldova*
- Leading and Contributing countries of other GHSA Action Packages.
- GHSA Contributing organizations: WHO, FAO, OIE.
- GHSA Partners: multilateral and bilateral donors, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, etc.

Organizational Aspects

- Date: March 26-28, 2018
- Place: Tbilisi, Georgia
- Duration: two and a half days
- Venue: TBD
- Meeting language: English

Contact Information

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