

Overview International Health Regulations (IHR)



Yitades GEBRE MD Risk Communication Training workshop Port of Spain 24 October 2011



International Health Regulations



- WHO Member States recognized need to collectively respond to public health emergencies of international concern (1994, 1995, 2003)
- An Intergovernmental Working Group tasked with the revision of the IHR(1969) in 2004
- WHO Member States adopted the current IHR during the 58th World Health Assembly in 2005
- Current IHR entered into force in June 2007
- A legal tool: describes procedures, rights and legal obligations for States Parties and WHO



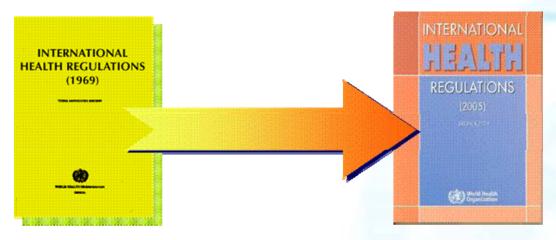
International Health Regulations

- Legal framework requested, negotiated, and developed by WHO Member States
- Recognition of a collective responsibility towards international public health, based on dialogue, transparency and trust - nothing new at technical level (Annex 1 – existing)
- Tool that serves public health according to good, evidence-based, practice and adapted to the context
- Opportunity to establish / maintain a public health system robust enough to ensure the flexibility needed to institutionalise lessons learned from real life in a continuous and dynamic manner



Purpose and scope of the IHR

"to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade" (Article 2)



- From three diseases to all public health hazards, irrespective of origin or source
- From preset measures to adapted response
- From control of borders to, also, containment at source



Purpose...

 The scope of the IHR is purposely broad and inclusive in respect of the public health event to which they have application in order to maximize the probability that all such events that could have serious international consequences are identified early and promptly reported by States Parties to WHO for assessment



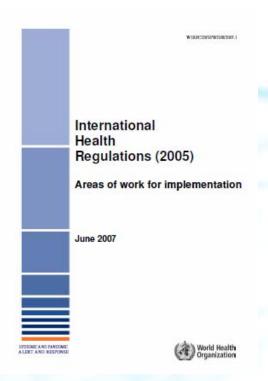
notifications

- Notification is required under IHR for all "events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern".
- In this regard, the broad new definitions of "event", "disease" and "public health risk" in the IHR are the building blocks of the surveillance obligations for States Parties and WHO.

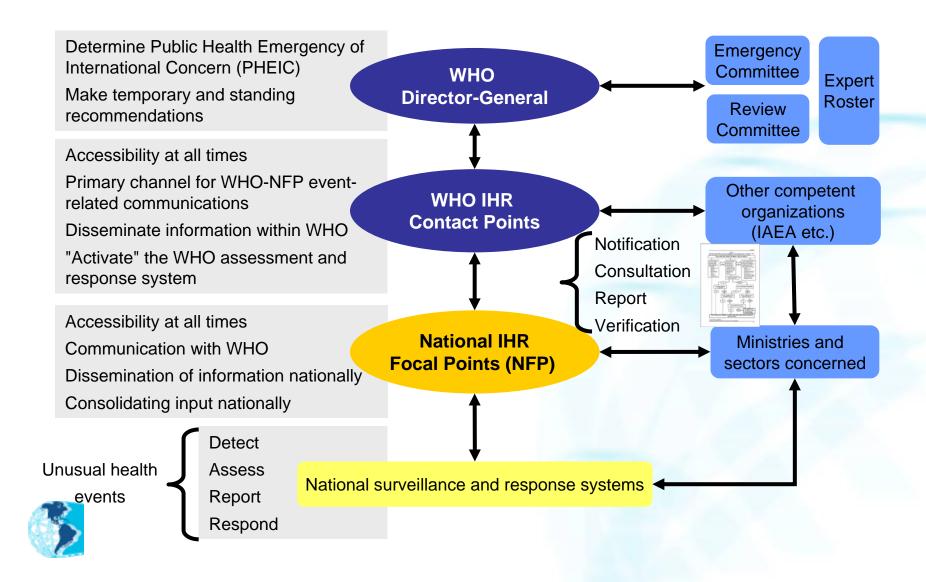


WHO strategic framework IHR Areas of Work, 2007

- 1. Foster global partnerships
- 2. Strengthen national disease prevention, surveillance, control and response systems
- 3. Strengthen public health security in travel and transport
- 4. Strengthen WHO global alert and response systems
- 5. Strengthen the management of specific risks
- 6. Sustain rights, obligations and procedures
 - . Conduct studies and monitor progress



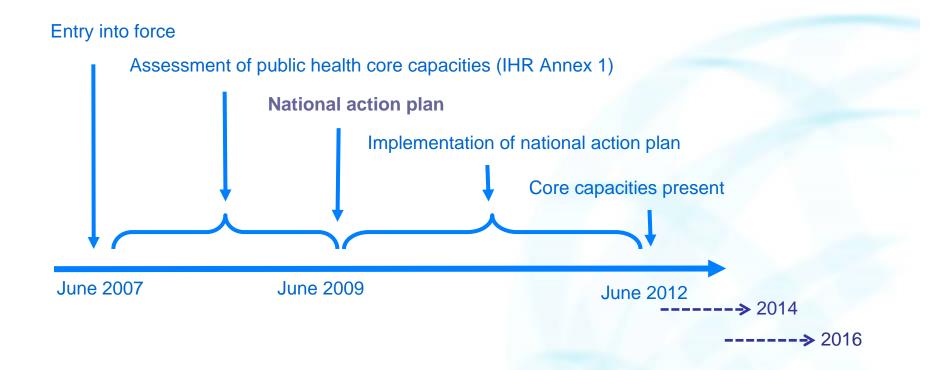
IHR operational framework



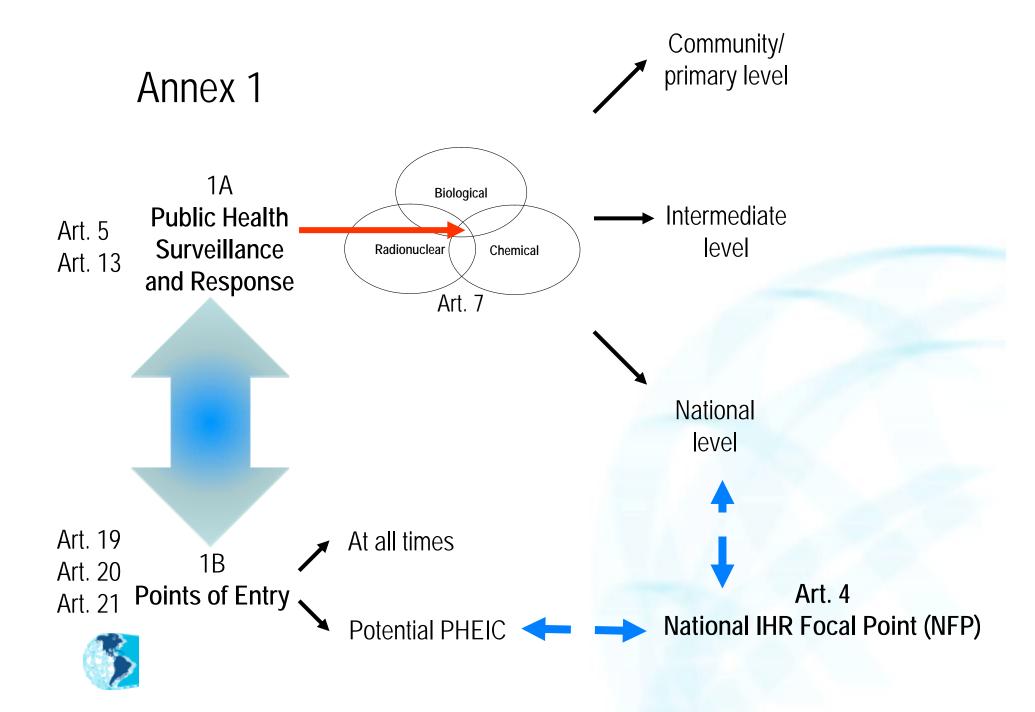
Annex 1 – National Core Capacity

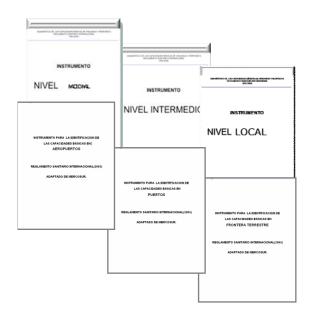
AW2: Strengthen national disease prevention, surveillance, control and response systems

AW3:Strengthen public health security in travel and transport



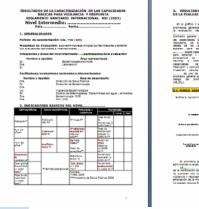






MERCOSUR assessment and planning tools revision 2008

- I. Legal and administrative framework
- II. Risk detection, risk assessment, and reporting
- III. Control investigation, intervention; and **risk** communication





PLAN DE ACCIÓN 2008-2012 PARA ALCANZAR LAS CAPACIDADES BÁSICAS DE VIGILANCIA Y RESPUESTAS					
DE ACUERDO AL NUEVO RSI-2005					
O GENERAL 1: ADAPTAR EL MARCO LEGAL, INSTITUCIONAL Y ADMINISTRATIVO AL NUEVO RSI (2005)					
blema detectado	Actividad	responsable	cronograma		

DBJETIVO GENERAL 1: ADAPTAR EL MARCO LEGAL, INSTITUCIONAL Y ADMINISTRATIVO AL NUEVO RSI (2005)					
Problema detectado	Actividad	responsable	cronograma	Recursos	Fuente
Objetivo específico № 1: concientizar a los efectores de salud para dar cumplimiento al Código Sanitario sobre enfermedades de notificación obligatoria					
Falta de cumplimiento del Código Sanitario sobre enfermedades de notificación obligatoria	 reunión con diferentes actores de los subsistemas de salud pública, seguridad social y privado para concientización de la obligatoriedad de la notificación. 2, elaboración de notas recordatorias ante la falta de notificación de los efectores. 3, solicitud a la DGVS la finalización de la actualización del código de salud. 	1 y 3. Dirección RSXVIII. 2. vigilancia.	1. marzo 2009. 2. continuo. 3. diciembre 2008		
Falta de un programa regular de sensibilización a los efectores de salud	 programación de talleres de sensibilización periódicos para los efectores de salud sobre la vigilancia cada dos años con actualizaciones sobre normativas de vigilancia Realización de los talleres. 	dirección. 2. vigilancia	1. febrero 2009. 2. julio 2009 y cada dos años		
Objetivo específico Nº 2: adapta	las normas y procedimientos de vigilancia y res	puesta al nuevo RSI (2005)			
En el Código no consta quiénes deben notificar	solicitud a DGVS la modificación del atículo en el código sobre la obligatoriedad de notificar especificando los actores que deben notificar. 2. capacitación y concientización a los efectores sobre el cambio.	1. Dirección. 2. DGVS	1 y 2. marzo 2008.		
Normas de procedimientos de vigilancia y respuesta sin actualizar	 solicitud del manual nacional de vigilancia donde consten todos los eventos y los componentes de vigilancia, investigación con sus fichas correspondientes y las medidas de prevención y control ambiental y de entermos y expuestos. 2. solicitud de culminación de la revisión del manual. 3. adquisición del manual. 	1 y 2. vigilancia. 3. DGVS	1 y 2. diciembre 2008. 3. marzo 2010		
No se cuenta con todas los formatos de notificación	solicitud a DGVS la actualización de las fichas de las ENO. 2. actualización de las fichas. 3. socializar las fichas entre los efectores de salud y los futuros referentes de vigilancia de los establecimientos.	1 y 3. Dirección. 2. DGVS	1 y 2. diciembre 2008. 3. marzo 2010		
Objetivo específico Nº 3: fortalecer el sistema con presupuesto propio					
Falta de presupuesto anual para vigitancia	 solicitud a DGVS para que gestione la incorporación de las actividades de vigilancia dentro de los formatos de POAr ergionades. 2 solicitud al director para participar de la elaboración del POA 2010. 3. incorporación de las actividades de vigilancia dentro del POA regional para 2010. 4. asignación el presupuesto para 2010. 5. socicidad de reprogramación del POA 2009. 	director. 2 y 5. vigitancia. 3 y 4. administración.	1, 2. y 5. diciembre 2008. 3. julio 2009. 4. a partir de enero 2010.		

III. Control – investigation, intervention; and risk communication

III.A HUMAN RESOURCES AND TRAINING

Are there interdisciplinary Rapid Response Teams (RRT) for public health emergencies? If yes, is the following expertise represented: [...], mass communications (comunicación social)?

III.D COORDINATION OF RESPONSE

Is there a national government committee for responding to health emergencies?

Does this committee consider coordination with other national institutions and areas to be strategic to the implementation of control measures? If so, is there coordination with: [...], education, mass communication, [...]?

Is there a national health sector committee for health emergency response?

Does this committee consider coordination with other health sector teams that are involved in response?

If so, is there coordination with: [...], **health promotion**, **information** and **communication**?

III. Control – investigation, intervention; and risk communication III.G MASS COMMUNICATION

- In public health emergencies, are official Ministry of Health reports or press releases regularly used for conveying information to the public?
- In public health emergencies, are epidemiological alerts for health professionals regularly used?
- In public health emergencies, is a Web page available to disseminate information?
- Is there a national crisis communication plan?
 If yes, does the plan identify: communication partners, spokespeople, uniform design for common messages, channels, procedures for mobilizing and informing spokespeople to conduct press conferences and produce news articles, tools (alerts, bulletins, profiles, etc., uniform design for the emergency Web page?
- Is there a procedures manual for the preparation of local crisis communication plans?

 If yes, does the manual contain the procedures mentioned in SEE ABOVE
- During an emergency, does the national communication system enable: timely communication of news, being first in providing regular updates, immediately preparing notices from technical reports, designing clear messages according to the audience (persons affected by the emergency, health workers, children, etc.), immediately preparing the Web page on the emergency, updating the Web page daily, immediately preparing and calling press conferences, requesting interviews with the media?

WHO global tool for monitoring core capacities v. 2011

- National legislation, policy and financing
- 2. Coordination and NFP communications
- 3. Surveillance
- 4. Response
- 5. Preparedness
- 6. Risk communication
- 7. Human resource capacity
- 8. Laboratory
- Points of Entry
- IHR Potential hazards 1: zoonotic events
- IHR Potential hazards 2: food safety
- IHR Potential hazards 3: chemical event
- IHR Potential hazards 4: radiation emergencies





Core Capacity	2	Coordination ⁸ and NFP Communications		
Component	2.1	IHR coordination ⁹ , communication and advocacy ¹⁰		
Indicator	2.1.1	*A mechanism is established for the coordination of relevant sectors 11 in the implementation of IHR		

- 2.1.1.1 Is there coordination within relevant ministries on events that may constitute a public health event or risk of national or international concern?
- 2.1.1.2 Are Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) or equivalent available for coordination between IHR NFP and relevant sectors?
- 2.1.1.3 Is a multi-sectoral, multidisciplinary body, committee or taskforce in place addressing IHR requirements on surveillance and response for public health emergencies of national and international concern?
- 2.1.1.4 Have multisectoral and multidisciplinary coordination and communication mechanisms been tested and updated regularly through exercises or through the occurrence of an actual event?
- 2.1.1.5 Are annual updates conducted on status of IHR implementation to stakeholders across all relevant sectors?

Core Capacity	2	Coordination ⁸ and NFP Communications
Component	2.1	IHR coordination, communication and advocacy
Indicator	2.1.2	*IHR NFP functions and operations in place as defined by IHR

- 2.1.2.1 Has the IHR NFP been established?
- 2.1.2.2 Have national stakeholders responsible for the implementation of IHR been identified?
- 2.1.2.3 Has information on obligations of the IHR NFP under the IHR been disseminated to relevant national authorities and stakeholders?
- 2.1.2.4 Have the roles and responsibilities of relevant authorities and stakeholders in regard to IHR implementation been defined and disseminated?
- 2.1.2.5 Have plans to sensitize stakeholders of their roles and responsibilities been implemented?
- 2.1.2.6 Is the IHR Event Information Site used as an integral part of the IHR NFP information resource?
- 2.1.2.7 Has an active IHR website or webpage been established?
- 2.1.2.8 Have any additional roles and responsibilities for the IHR NFP functions been implemented?
- 2.1.2.9 Does the IHR NFP provide WHO with updated contact information as well as annual confirmation of the IHR NFP?

Core Capacity	6	Risk Communication
Component	6.1	Policy and procedures for public communications
Indicator	6.1.1	*Mechanisms for effective risk communication during a public health emergency are established

- 6.1.1.1 Have risk communication partners and stakeholders been identified?
- 6.1.1.2 Has a risk communication plan been developed?
- 6.1.1.3 Has the risk communication plan been implemented or tested through actual emergency or simulation exercise and updated in the last 12 months?
- 6.1.1.4 Are policies, SOPs or guidelines developed on the clearance and release of information during a public health emergency?
- 6.1.1.5 Are regularly updated information sources accessible to media and the public for information dissemination?
- 6.1.1.6 Are there accessible and relevant IEC (Information, Education and Communications) materials tailored to the needs of the population?
- 6.1.1.7 In the last three national or international PH emergencies, have populations and partners been informed of a real or potential risk within 24 hours following confirmation?
- 6.1.1.8 Has an evaluation of the public health communication been conducted after emergencies, for timeliness, transparency and appropriateness of communications, been carried out?
- 6.1.1.9 Have results of evaluations of risk communications efforts during a public health emergency been shared with the global community?

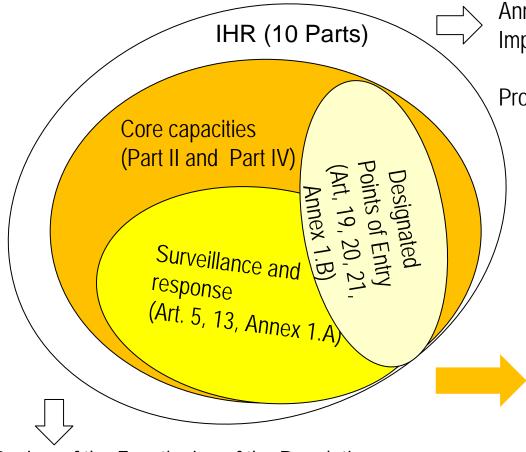


SUMMARY REPORT

Meeting of the IHR Risk Communication and Capacity Building Working Group WHO Lyon Office for National Epidemic Preparedness and Response 16-18 March 2011, Lyon, France



American II with Expulsions Construction



Annual Report to the WHA on the Implementation of the IHR (Art.54, WHA61.2)

Procedural and technical options

WHA61.2 Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)

The Sixty-first World Realth Assembly,
DECIDES:

(1) in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 54 of the International Health Regulation
(2005), that States Parties and the Director-General shall report to the Health Assembly on 0

(2) in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 54 of the International Health Regulation (2005), that the first review of the functioning of the Regulations shall be made by the Sixty-third World Health Assembly;

National IHR Action Plan (/ individual Action Plans for designated Points of Entry)

Procedural and technical options



Decision making process to request the extension of the 2012 deadline to 2014

Procedural and technical options

Review of the Functioning of the Regulations (Art.54, DG proposal at 126th EB)

Report of the IHR Review Committee (A64.10)







MERCOSUR tool

Country	Sub-region	MERCOSUR tool	Date assessment	National IHR Action Plan	National IHR Action Plan budgeted
Bolivia	ANDEAN	si	Nov-09	si	no
Chile	ANDEAN	si	2009	si	in progress
Colombia	ANDEAN	si*	UNK	si*	?
Ecuador	ANDEAN	si	Dec-08	si	si
Peru	ANDEAN	si	Jun-10	si	in progress
Venezuela	ANDEAN	si*	UNK	si*	?
Argentina	MERCOSUR	si	Jul-08	si	in progress
Brazil	MERCOSUR	si	2009	si	in progress
Paraguay	MERCOSUR	si	Nov-08	si	si
Uruguay	MERCOSUR	si	2008	si	si
Costa Rica	RESSCAD	si		si - costos?	?
Dominican Republic	RESSCAD	si		si - costos?	?
El Salvador	RESSCAD	si		si	si
Guatemala	RESSCAD	si		si	si
Honduras	RESSCAD	si		no	si
Nicaragua	RESSCAD	si		si	si
Panama	RESSCAD	si		si	si







Assessment of the needs of European Overseas Territories

A report commissioned by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Contol, and prepared by the Health Protection Agency (United Ringdom) in calebourton with Institute de Velle Santhaire (France), the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (Natherlands), and the Directional Medical Office of Health

October 200

Country	Assessment	CAREC tool
Antigua and Barbuda	yes	yes
Belize	yes	no
Guyana	yes	no
Jamaica	yes	yes
Surinam	yes	no
Bahamas	yes	no
Barbados	yes	yes
Dominica	yes	yes
Grenada	yes	yes
Saint Lucia	yes	yes
St Kitts and Nevis	yes	yes
St Vincent and the Grenadines	yes	yes
Trinidad and Tobago	yes	yes



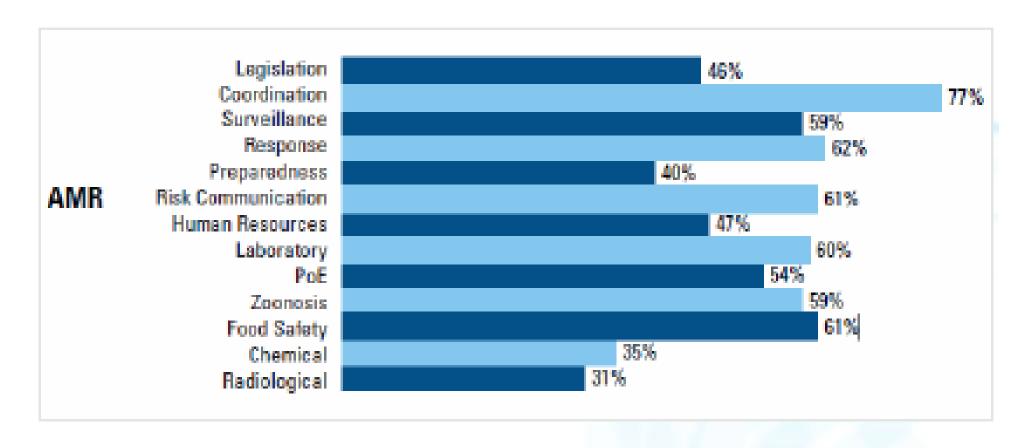
States Parties reports on IHR implementation Feb – Oct 2010

Globally: 63% (123/194; 120/123 SP used WHO/HQ format)

- AFRO 50%
- AMRO 54% (1 SP using MERCOSUR tool)
 89% en 2008 y 66% en 2009
- EMRO 82%
- EURO 60% (2 SP using other format)
- SEARO 100% (1 SP other format)
- WPRO 74%



Core capacity Regional Average Attribute Scores



The scores, ranging from 0 to 100%, are automatically calculated using data analysis software embedded in the internet-based tool. For the sake of simplicity, all attributes are given the same weight. In calculating the attribute score, the numerator is the total number of attributes achieved in levels 1 and 2 combined, and the denominator is the sum of Level 1 and 2 attributes.

IHR Review Committee

Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) in relation to Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Summary Conclusions

- 1. The IHR helped make the world better prepared to cope with publichealth emergencies...but core capacities are not yet fully operational and not on a path to timely implementation worldwide
- WHO performed well in many ways during the pandemic, confronted systemic difficulties and demonstrated some shortcomings. The Committee found no evidence of malfeasance
- The world is ill-prepared to respond to a severe influenza pandemic or to any similarly global, sustained and threatening public-health emergency



Summary conclusion 2 WHO performed well in many ways but systemic difficulties and shortcomings...no evidence of malfeasance

- R5: Strengthen WHO's internal capacity for sustained response
- R6: Improve practices for appointment of an Emergency Committee
- R7: Revise pandemic preparedness guidance
- R8: Develop and apply measures to assess severity
- R9: Streamline management of guidance documents
- R10: Develop and implement a strategic, organization-wide communications policy
- R11: Encourage advance agreements for vaccine distribution and delivery

"Elusive transparency....."



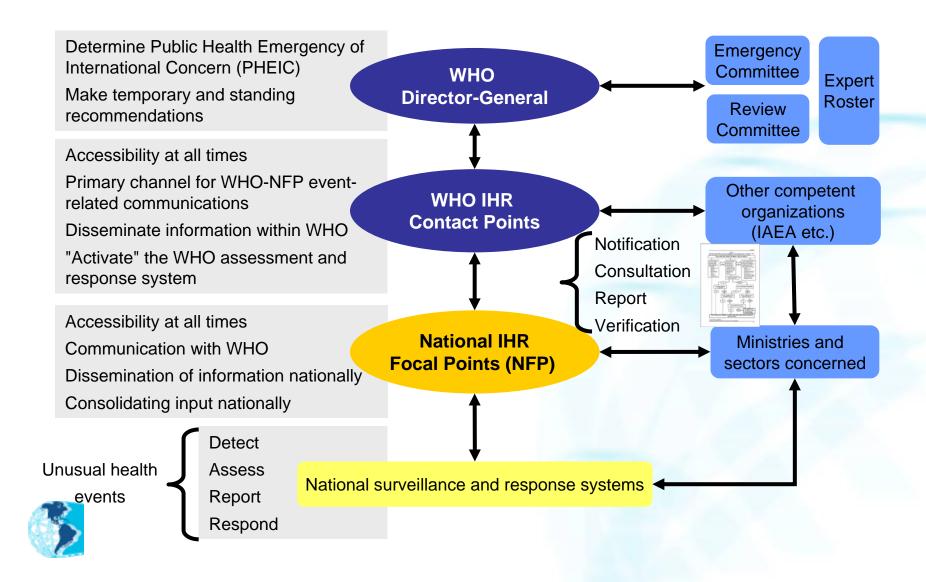




WHO global alert and response systems

- Decentralized Structure & Capacity
 - 6 regional and 142 country offices
- Collective experience in managing public health events
 - Consistency
 - Timeliness
 - Technical Excellence
 - Transparency and Accountability
- Networks and Partnerships (e.g. GOARN, regional and subregional networks, specialist networks, WHO CCs; GISN)

IHR operational framework



Decision instrument (Annex 2)

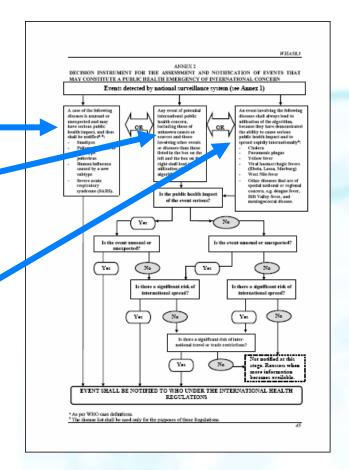
Notifiable diseases:

- Poliomyelitis, wild-type virus
- Human influenza, new subtype
- SARS
- Smallpox

Any event of potential international public health concern

Diseases that shall always lead to utilization of the algorithm:

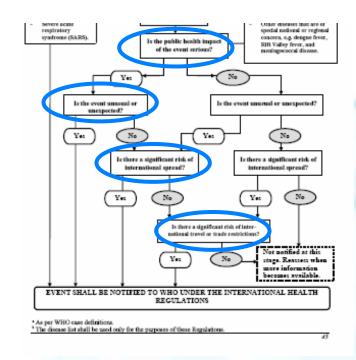
Cholera, pneumonic plague, yellow fever, viral haemorrhagic fevers (Ebola, Lassa, Marburg), West Nile fever, other diseases of special national or regional concern (e.g. dengue fever, Rift Valley fever and meningococcal disease)





Decision instrument (Annex 2) Two of the following criteria...but

- Is the public health impact of the event serious?
- Is the event unusual or unexpected?
- Is there a significant risk of international spread?
- Is there a significant risk of international travel or trade restrictions?

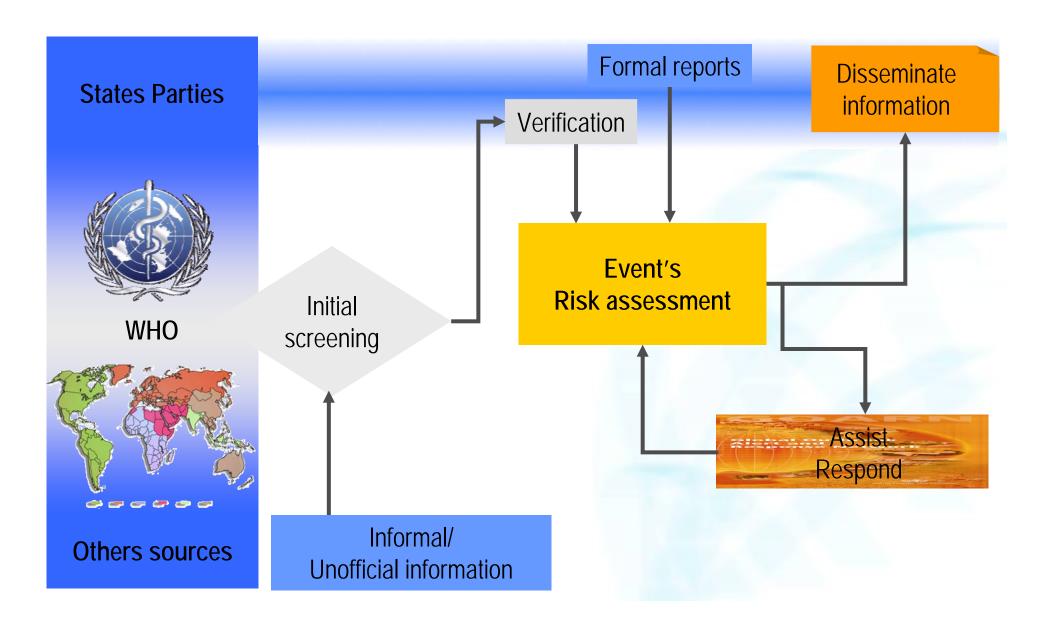


- Not a risk assessment framework per se
- Guidance to inform the decision to communicate with WHO
- When in doubt
- Potential benefits
- Anything that you would want to know from others

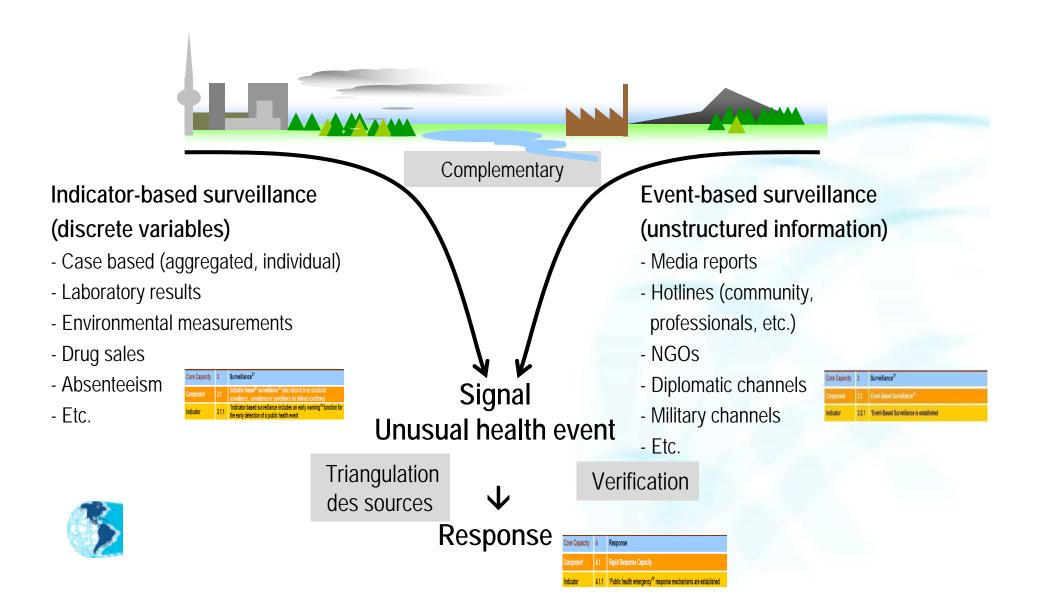


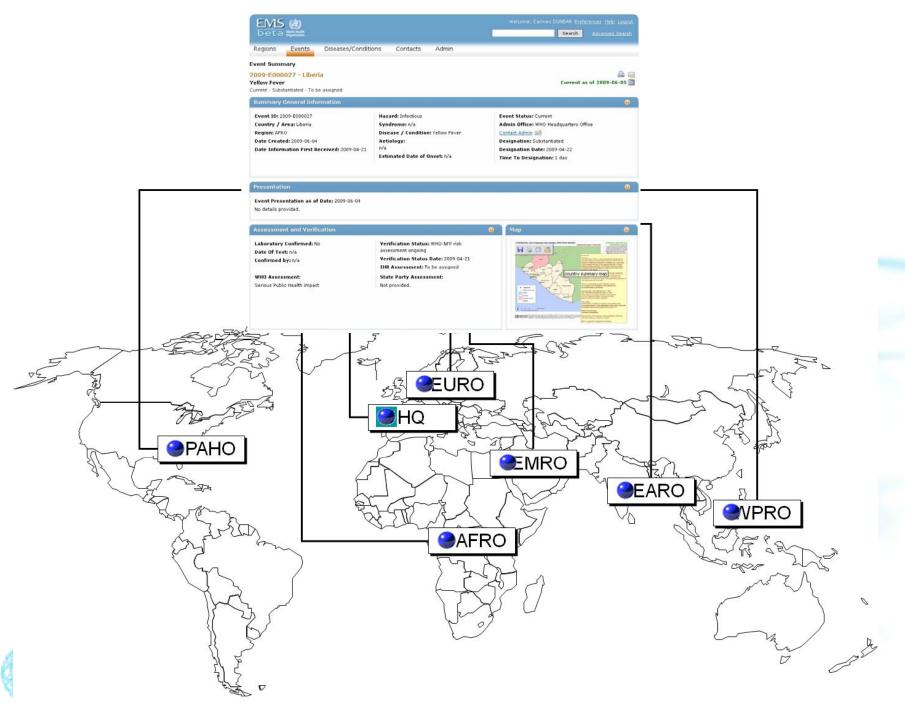
WHO Event Management Process

Information and Public Health Response

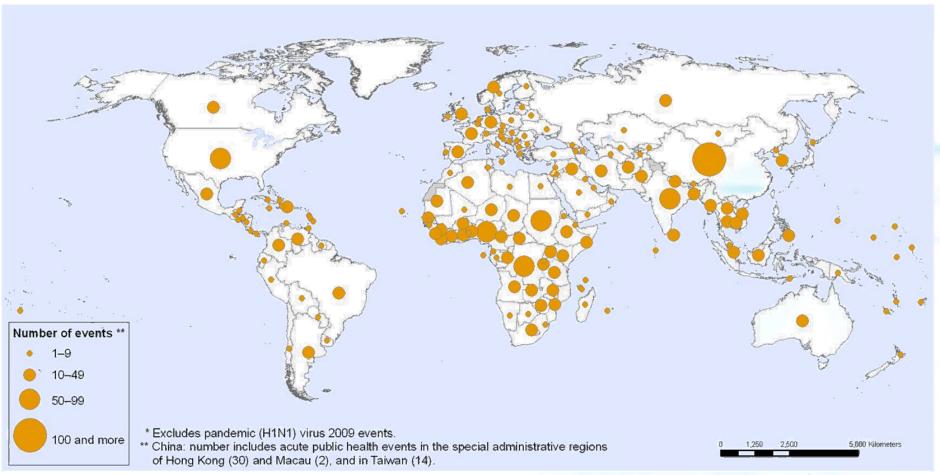


Early warning function of the public health surveillance system 100% coverage, 100% sensitivity, 100% flexibility





Substantiated acute public health events, by country (EMS, 1 January 2001 – 9 June 2010, n=1,945) *

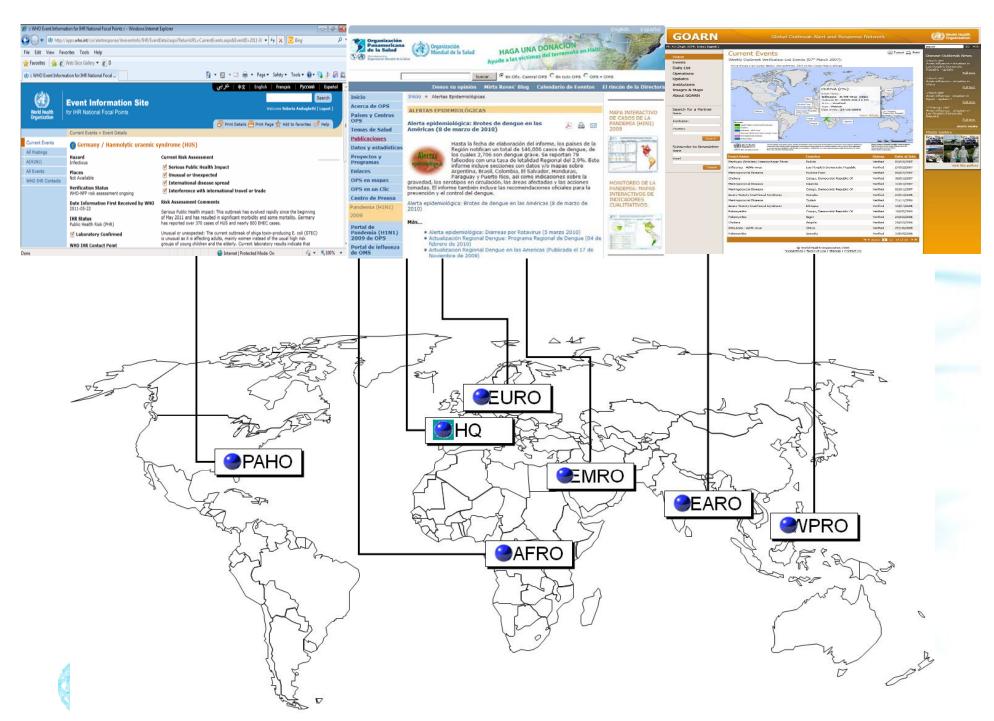


The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

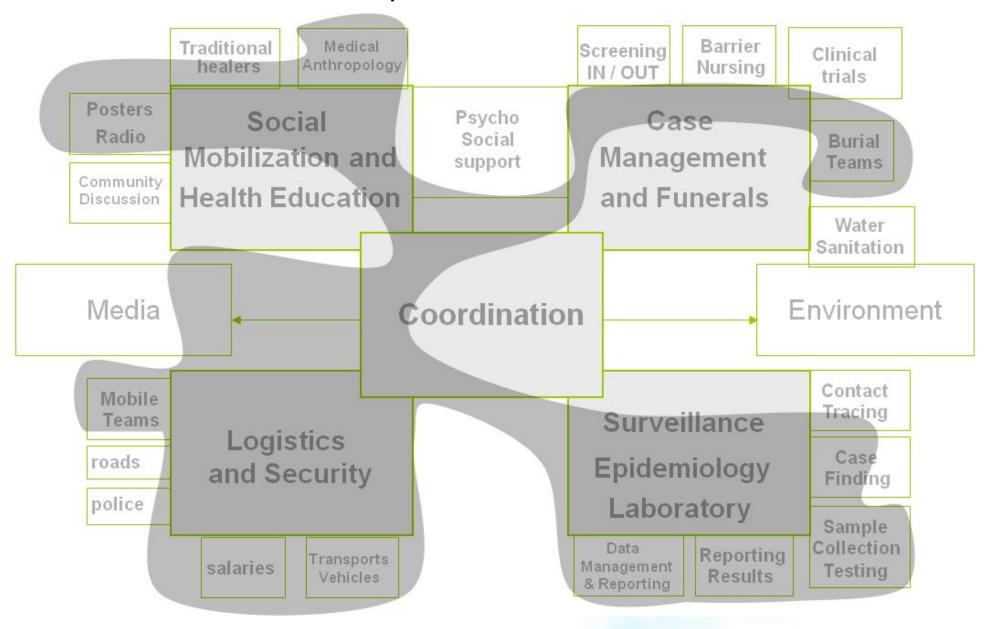
Data Source: World Health Organization Map Production: Public Health Information and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) World Health Organization



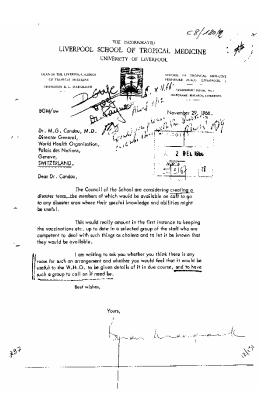
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Field operations framework







November 1966

The Council of the School are considering creating a disaster team, the members of which would be available on call to go to any disaster area where their special knowledge and abilities might be useful.

This would really amount in the first instance to keeping the vaccinations etc. up to date in a selected group of the staff who are competent to deal with such things as cholera and to let it be known that they would be available.

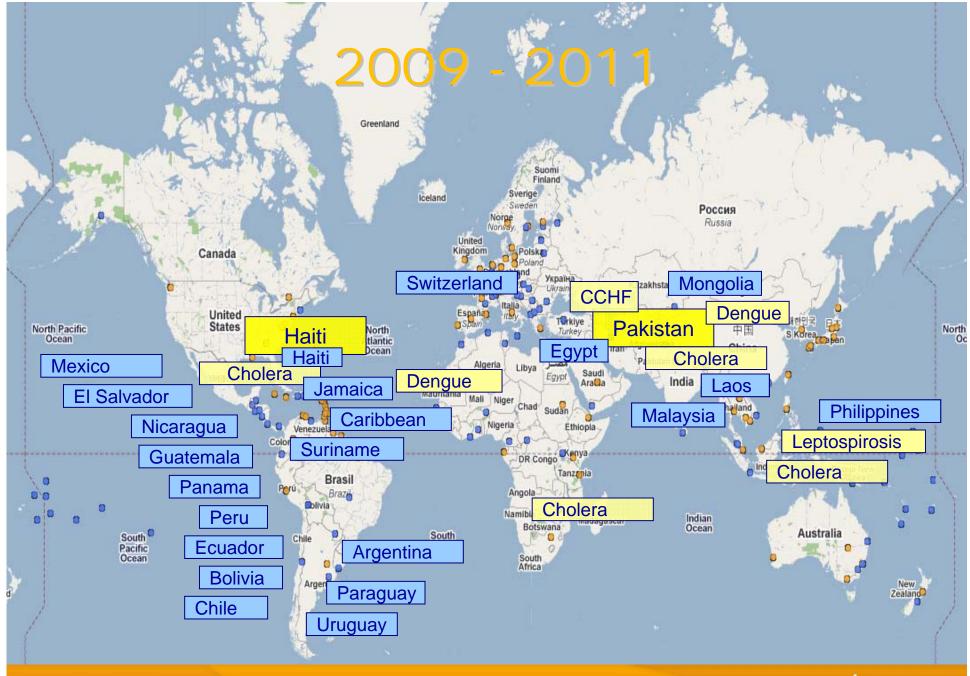
I am writing to ask you whether you think there is any room for such an arrangement and whether you would feel that it would be useful to the W.H.O. to be given details of it in due course, and to have such a group to call on if need be.

April 2010

- No single institution has all the capacity!
- Coordinate and supported rapid international team support to countries for outbreak response
- To focus and coordinate global resources - local > regional > global





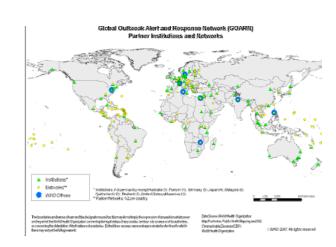






Build the Puzzle	Mexico Response	Regional Response
•Gathering intelligence •Risk Assessment •IHR channel •Trilateral agreement •Few people involved	 Complex Multiple external players: PAHO, WHO, CDC, PHAC, GOARN, Bilateral, Trilateral, Difficult access to key domestic players, 2 approaches: - support MOH and Governement response, - gather / analyze information, field investigations 	 •Monitor the spread of the disease •Direct technical assistance to prioritized countries and countries with epidemics •Readiness assessment teams versus Rapid Response Teams; •Two rounds in central America May-June / October-December.
April 10 th – April 23rd	April 23 rd – Mid May	Mid May – December

New context



- Lessons were learnt
- Greater/Formal Regionalization of "Operations"
 - WHO Global Team, and Global Event Management System
 - Strategic Health Operations Centre and Regional Operations Hubs at Regional Offices, and in priority country offices

Ultimate network National IHR Focal Points



Needs

- Equitable and appropriate participation in field missions
- Early Alert and Request for Assistance
- •Clear Terms of Reference for International Missions
- Clear Terms of Reference for Experts
- Rapid, transparent, consistent decisionmaking
- Professional administration and contracting
- Dependable field logistics and consistent operational support
- Geographical, linguistic and cultural proximity

Thank you



