

# WHO Meeting of National Influenza Centres 17-19 July 2017

**Executive Board Room  
WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland**

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Chair: John McCauley  
Facilitator: Daniel Normandeau  
Rapporteur: Alan Hay

### DAY 1: MONDAY, 17 JULY 2017

08:00 – 09:00 REGISTRATION

#### OPENING SESSION

09:00 – 09:10 Opening and Welcome – *Peter Salama, Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme*

09:10 – 09:15 Welcome – *Sylvie Briand, Director, Infectious Hazard Management Department*

09:15 – 09:30 Introduction – *Wenqing Zhang, Manager, Global Influenza Programme*

- Introduction of meeting objectives
- Selection and appointment of Chair, Facilitator and Rapporteur
- Administrative and house-keeping announcement

09:30 – 09:35 Remarks from the Chair and Facilitator – *John McCauley/Daniel Normandeau*

#### Keynotes:

- 09:35 – 09:55 • 65 years' path of GISRS – history and implications to global public health  
– *Nancy Cox*
- 09:55 – 10:15 • Influenza at the human-animal interface – history and challenges  
– *Robert Webster*

10:15 – 10:25 Questions and Answers

10:25 – 10:40 WHO Health Emergencies – a new approach to global emergency response  
– *Michael Ryan, Deputy Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme*

10:40 – 11:15 GROUP PHOTO AND COFFEE/TEA BREAK

**SESSION 1: STATUS OF GLOBAL INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE SYSTEM (GISRS)**  
(Session Minder: *Mbayame Ndiaye Niang, NIC, Senegal*)

11:15 – 11:30	<b>Highlights at global and regional levels:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the global level: <i>Wenqing Zhang, WHO HQ</i></li> <li>At the regional level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>AFR – Belinda Herring</i></li> <li>- <i>AMR – Rakhee Palekar</i></li> <li>- <i>EMR – Amgad Elkholy</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11:30 – 11:45	
11:45 – 12:00	
12:00 – 12:15	
12:15 – 12:30	
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Questions, Answers and Discussion</b>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
13:30 – 13:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the regional level (continued): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>EUR – Caroline Brown</i></li> <li>- <i>SEAR – Philip Gould</i></li> <li>- <i>WPR – Erica Dueger</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13:45 – 14:00	
14:00 – 14:15	
14:15 – 14:30	
14:15 – 14:30	<b>Questions, Answers and Discussion</b>
<b>SESSION 2: IMPROVING SEASONAL AND PANDEMIC RESPONSE</b> (Session Minder: <i>Irma Lopez Martinez, NIC, Mexico</i> )	
14:30 – 14:45	<b>Surveillance and vaccine composition:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seasonal influenza vaccine virus selection and vaccine composition for the tropics – improvements and challenges – <i>Jackie Katz, WHO CC, CDC, USA</i></li> <li>Surveillance guidance and standards – seasonal and pandemic influenza – <i>Julia Fitzner, WHO HQ</i></li> </ul>
14:45 – 15:00	
15:00 – 15:15	
15:15 – 15:45	<b>Questions, Answers and Discussion</b>
15:15 – 15:45	<b>COFFEE/TEA BREAK</b>
15:45 – 16:00	<b>Pandemic preparedness:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pandemic preparedness guidance and tools – <i>Katelijan Vandemaele, WHO HQ</i></li> <li>PIP Framework and implementation – <i>Anne Huvos, WHO HQ</i></li> <li>NIC view on influenza pandemic preparedness – <i>Jean-Michel Héraud, NIC, Madagascar</i></li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:15	
16:15 – 16:30	
16:30 – 16:45	
16:45 – 16:50	<b>Questions, Answers and Discussion</b>
16:45 – 16:50	<b>Chair's observations – John McCauley</b>
16:50 – 18:00	<b>POSTER SESSION:</b> NIC experience, development and findings <b>Info Desks:</b> <b>Theme 1:</b> Virus sharing and shipping logistics (host: <i>R. Daniels, C. Fuster, et al.</i> ) <b>Theme 2:</b> Reporting, FluNet, FluID and FLUMART (host: <i>J. Fitzner, M. Lièvre, et al.</i> ) <b>Theme 3:</b> PIP Framework including PIP PC (host: <i>PIP Secretariat</i> )
18:30 – 20:30	<b>WHO Reception at the Main Building Cafeteria</b>

## DAY 2: TUESDAY, 18 JULY 2017

08:45 – 08:50 Chair's Introduction of Day 2 – *John McCauley*

### SESSION 3: TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS – PART 1 (Session Minder: *Nissaf Bouafif, NIC, Tunisia*)

**08:50 – 09:00** **Global focus:**

- Update on PCR diagnostics for surveillance – practice and challenges  
– *Stephen Lindstrom, WHOCC, CDC, USA*

**09:00 – 09:15**

- An overview of laboratory assays – challenges and solutions  
– *Ian Barr, WHOCC, VIDRL, Australia*

**09:15 – 09:30**

- Sharing GSD and its use in GISRS surveillance and response  
– *John McCauley, WHOCC, the Francis Crick Institute, United Kingdom*

**09:30 – 09:40**

- Role of ERLs in GISRS – *Jerry Weir, WHO ERL, CBER, USA*

**09:40 – 09:55** **Questions, Answers and Discussion**

**09:55 – 10:25** **PANEL DISCUSSION 1 – Interaction with Directors of WHO Collaborating Centres**  
*Panel: Ian Barr, Australia; Trushar Jeevan, USA; Jackie Katz, USA; John McCauley, United Kingdom; Takato Odagiri, Japan; Dayan Wang, China*

**10:25 – 10:55** COFFEE/TEA BREAK

### SESSION 4: TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS – PART 2 (Session Minder: *Olav Hungnes, NIC, Norway*)

**10:55 – 11:05** **National focus:**

- NIC view on laboratory technology development  
– *Maria Zambon, NIC, United Kingdom*

**11:05 – 11:20**

- Operational guidance on virus sharing  
– *Rodney Daniels, WHOCC, the Francis Crick Institute, United Kingdom*

**11:20 – 11:30** **Questions, Answers and Discussion**

**11:30 – 12:30** **PANEL DISCUSSION 2 – Highlights from NICs – challenges and experience**  
*Panel: Rodrigo Fasce, Chile; Jude Jayamaha, Sri Lanka; Hervé Kadjo, Côte d'Ivoire; Gulay Korukluoglu, Turkey; Talat Mokhtari-Azad, Islamic Republic of Iran; Kongmany Southalack, Lao People's Democratic Republic*

**12:30 – 13:30** LUNCH BREAK

**13:30 – 14:00** **PANEL DISCUSSION 3 – Strengthening surveillance in countries**  
*Panel: Nada Ghosn, Lebanon; Richard Njouom, Cameroon; Dmitriy Pereyaslov, WHO EURO; Katelijn Vandemaele, WHO HQ; Kachen Wongsathapornchai, FAO*

**SESSION 5: EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF PARTNERS ON INFLUENZA AND INTERACTION WITH GISRS**  
(Session Minder: *Le Thi Quynh Mai, NIC, Viet Nam*)

14:00 – 14:15	<b>Update on developments from partners:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influenza surveillance and control in animals – strategy and its implementation – <i>Gounalan Pavade, OIE and Sophie von Dobschuetz, FAO</i></li> </ul>
14:15 – 14:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>US countermeasure preparedness for influenza public health emergencies – <i>Ruben Donis, BARDA</i></li> </ul>
14:30 – 14:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USAID strategy on influenza – <i>Andrew Clements, USAID</i></li> </ul>
14:40 – 14:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU contribution to GISRS through generation of influenza virus characterization by NICs – <i>Eeva Broberg, ECDC</i></li> </ul>
14:50 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IFPMA vision related to influenza and GISRS – <i>Sam Lee, IFPMA</i></li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:15	<b>Questions, Answers and Discussion</b>
15:15 – 15:45	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION 4 – GISRS development in the global context: expert views from outside of GISRS</b>  <i>Panel: Bruce Ruscio, State Department, USA; Klaus Stöhr, ex-WHO; Beverley Taylor, IFPMA; Niteen Wairagkar, BMGF; Lidewij Wiersma, FAO</i>
15:45 – 16:15	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
<b>SESSION 6: GLOBAL INFLUENZA STRATEGY</b> (Session Minder: <i>Sylvie Van der Werf, NIC and WHO H5 Reference Laboratory, France</i> )	
	<b>STRATEGY PLENARY EXCHANGE</b>
16:15 – 16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of the Global Influenza Strategy – <i>Ann Moen</i></li> </ul>
16:30 – 17:20	<b>Discussion:</b> Input into the Global Influenza Strategy
17:20 – 17:30	<b>Chair's observations</b> – <i>John McCauley</i>
17:30 – 18:30	<b>POSTER SESSION:</b> NIC experience, development and findings <b>Info Desks:</b> <b>Theme 4:</b> Laboratory issues and training needs (host: <i>P. Reading, X. Xu, et al.</i> ) <b>Theme 5:</b> GISRID, Sequencing and bioinformatics (host: <i>R. Garten, S. Watanabe et al.</i> ) <b>Theme 6:</b> BoD and other subjects (host: <i>E. Azziz-Baumgartner, A. Hurt, W. Zhou, et al.</i> )
18:30	<b>Closure of Day 2</b>

### DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, 19 JULY 2017

08:45 – 08:50	Chair's Introduction of Day 3 – <i>John McCauley</i>
<b>SESSION 7: THE WAY FORWARD – A ROBUST SYSTEM</b> (Session Minder: <i>William Ampofo, NIC, Ghana</i> )	
08:50 – 09:05	Update on the NIC TOR and review process to retain WHO recognition – <i>Magdi Samaan, WHO HQ</i>
09:05 – 09:20	Introduction of formalizing GISRS – <i>Wenqing Zhang, WHO HQ</i>
09:20 – 10:00	Discussion
10:00 – 10:15	Inspiration and deliberation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience from SARS response – the importance of a global laboratory surveillance system</li> </ul> – <i>Albert Osterhaus</i>
10:15 – 10:45	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
10:45 – 11:15	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION 5 – System building of GISRS</b> <i>Panel: Silvia Bino, Albania; Rakhee Palekar, PAHO; Mahmudur Rahman, Bangladesh; Yuelong Shu, China</i>
11:15 – 12:00	Plenary Exchange on the Way Forward – Input for GISRS priorities in 2018 – 2023
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH BREAK
<b>SESSION 8: GISRS COMMUNICATION – NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY ON INFLUENZA</b> (Session Minder: <i>Malinee Chittaganpitch, NIC, Thailand</i> )	
13:00 – 13:10	Introduction to communication session and participant interaction
13:10 – 13:25	Experiences from a NIC on communication – <i>Marilda Siqueira, Brazil</i>
13:25 – 13:45	Interactive presentation on influencing and strategic communication for NICs
13:45 – 14:15	Table top exercise on communications for NICs
14:15 – 14:30	Debriefing and action points
14:30 – 15:00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
<b>CLOSING SESSION</b>	
15:00 – 15:25	Brief observations from Session Minders – <i>Mbayame Ndiaye Niang, Irma Lopez Martinez, Nissaf Bouafif, Olav Hungnes, Le Thi Quynh Mai, Sylvie Van der Werf, William Ampofo and Malinee Chittaganpitch</i>
15:25 – 15:35	Summary by Chair – <i>John McCauley</i>
15:35 – 15:50	Keynote: Furthering GISRS to a new era – <i>Ann Moen</i>
15:50 – 16:00	Wrap-up and closing of the meeting – <i>Wenqing Zhang</i>
16:00	Closure of meeting