



# The new EU Framework on Health Security

Diagnosis and Surveillance of Infectious Diseases  
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## **Framework - policy cycle on health security based on the development and implementation of legal instruments**

**overarching goal - identify and create EU added value**

**internal market - free movement of people, goods and services**

**principles - subsidiarity, proportionality, etc impact assessment**

- **Lisbon Treaty article 168 ex article 152**

- 13 December 2007, 1 December 2009
- [ec.europa.eu/archives/lisbon\\_treaty/full\\_text/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/archives/lisbon_treaty/full_text/index_en.htm)

- **Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health ex Decision 2119/98/EC**

- 22 October 2013, 6 November 2013
- [http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness\\_response/docs/decision\\_serious\\_crossborder\\_threats\\_2102013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/docs/decision_serious_crossborder_threats_2102013_en.pdf)

- **Commission Report to European Parliament and Council on implementation of Decision 1082**

- 7 December 2015
- .....

## **Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health - the scope**

- biological threats**
  - communicable diseases**
  - non-communicable diseases**
  - Special health issues**
- chemical**
- environmental**
- unknown**
- Public health emergencies of international concern IHR**

## **Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health - the pillars (1)**

**enhance coordinated EU response at EU level**

### **HSC**

- **meets regularly on events: polio, MERS CoV, vaccine shortage, migrants**

### **response to Ebola**

- **30 teleconferences**
- **travel advice**
- **communication**
- **preparedness**
- **entry/exit screening**
- **EU case definition**
- **infection control**
- **medical evacuations**

## Decision 1082/2013/EU - the pillars (2)

### strengthen preparedness and response planning at EU level

- **Member states to report on preparedness and response planning on basis of template, implementing act under article 4 of decision**
- **reporting also covers IHR implementation**
- **confidential report by Commission to health security committee, comprehensive overview, aggregated data from 26/28 MS,**
- **strengths and weaknesses:**
- **follow up by working group on preparedness and response planning – joint external evaluation tool for assessment of national preparedness, Lyon as hub, training and capacity building, scenario exercises, regional seminars for exchange of best practice,**

## **Decision 1082/2013/EU – the pillars (3)**

### **joint procurement**

- **Voluntary,**
- **Turn competition into solidarity, EU added value: economy of scale**
- **agreement signed by 24 Member States**
- **covers medical countermeasures**
- **procedures under way for pandemic vaccines and personal protective equipment (PPE),**
- **Other issues: diphtheria and access to antitoxins**

## **Decision 1082/2013/EU - the pillars (4)**

### **surveillance of communicable diseases and related health issues**

- **ECDC in charge of collecting data electronically**
- **interlinks Commission, ECDC and Member States, with also joint collection for some diseases with WHO Euro.**
- **covers 47 communicable disease and special health issues**
- **case definitions, fast track procedure for pandemic flu in 2009, but not used again for Ebola, ECA audit report**
- **continuous updates, work on Lyme case definitions in progress**

## **Decision 1082/2013/EU - the pillars (5)**

### **risk assessment**

- **to be made available to the health security committee**
- **to be prepared by ECDC, other EU agencies or scientific committees**
- **ECDC prepared rapid risk assessments recently for MERS CoV, polio, Zika, Ebola and the current refugee flows**



## Decision 1082/2013/EU - the pillars (6)

### Early Warning and Response System and rules for alert notification

- now covers now all serious cross-border threats to health
- Commission and Member States to alert, assess risks and coordinate measures
- Member States and Commission to notify alerts in line with defined criteria
- links with other EU rapid alert systems at EU level
- **specific functionality to report an event under IHR**
- 'selective exchange' functionality for medical evacuation or bilateral information sharing

## **achieving inter-sectoral collaboration and action beyond health – public health programme, CHAFEA**

### **scenario exercises**

- **test preparedness and response planning**
- **improve inter-sectoral collaboration**
- **'Quicksilver' on 24-25 September 2014**
- **follow up exercise 29 September – 30 October 2015**

### **capacity building - training, train the trainers, projects, joint actions, grants, framework contracts**

- **public health law flu**
- **public health law**
- **syndromic surveillance**
- **regional seminars, exchange of best practice,**
- **EPIET, MEDEPIET, SHIPSAN, AIRSAN,**

## **achieving inter-sectoral collaboration and action beyond health**

### **Conference on " lessons learned for public health from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa**

- **objectives:**
  - **identify learning points**
  - **prepare EU better for rapid response**
  - **identify public health support for other policies and other critical sectors**
- **outcome to inform conclusions under Luxembourg Presidency, adopted in December 2015, follow up under action plan, monitored by HSC preparedness working group which also covers results report on national state of preparedness in MS**

## achieving inter-sectoral collaboration and action beyond health - conclusions

### Commission support of IHR implementation and inter-sectoral collaboration

- **Decision 1082/2013/EU to strengthen capacity building and coherent IHR implementation**
- scenario exercises
- Ebola lessons learnt conference
- Council conclusions to strengthen inter-sectoral collaboration
- Commission supports recommendations of Stocking interim assessment report on Ebola
- Commission supported French Conference on International Health regulations in March 2016
- Commission support to Global health security agenda and initiative as well as Nagoya, Sendai, etc: health in all policies

## **AOB (1)**

- **patient arrives from another EU country with a multiresistant bacterial infection**
  - **AMR action plan, exchange of good practice, TATFAR, public health primary remit MS**
- **Lassa fever case in patient arriving in Europe from Africa, which row in plane can be contaminated during flight?, 4 pragmatic teleconferences with stakeholders on tracking down to be able to recommend appropriate measures, contact tracing on health grounds legally not established at EU level,**

## **AoB (2)**

- **reference laboratory at European level,**
- **First essay: CRL pandemic influenza as part of Community pandemic flu prep plan in 2003 with legally established reference function, EU public health lead labs sceptic, suggestion: Union Network of national reference laboratories, vs URL, no change of arrangements in 2009 pandemic**
- **Africa swine fever outbreak in PT, mediation of EU meat export into third countries at risk without legally established reference functions, subsidiarity but need to hand over national sovereignty and ownership of sample to supranational authority: OIE ref lab later became CRL for African swine fever to enhance global trust of EU as meat exporter**
- **second trigger: Ebola : URL, still no URL, lack of pressure like in animal health under common agricultural policy**
- **Situation as of today: ECDC hub without lab capacity**
- **ECDC as hub without lab capacity,**

# Conclusions: please also see abstract

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- **Growing importance of international conventions: EU as global player in health security beyond EU**
- **Paradigm shift: health for growth – sustainable development goals**
- **Focus of Commission mandate on the basis of Commissioner Andriukaitis in this area on crisis management and preparedness and country knowledge**
- **New challenges: hybrid threats**
- **Thank you for your attention**