

**MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF  
THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND  
STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL  
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND  
ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

BWC/MSP/2004/MX/WP.47  
22 July 2004

ENGLISH ONLY

Second Meeting  
Geneva, 6-10 December 2004

Meeting of Experts  
Geneva, 19-30 July 2004  
Item 5 and 6 of the agenda

**National system of epidemiological surveillance in Ukraine**

**Submitted by Ukraine**

1. Epidemiological surveillance in Ukraine is carried out on the basis of Ukrainian legislation acts: “On Ensuring the Sanitary and Epidemiological Well-Being of the Population”, “On Protection of the Population Against Infectious Diseases”, “On Control of Tuberculosis Sickness Rate”, “On Prevention of AIDS Incidences and Social Protection of the Population” and other regulations.
2. Epidemiological surveillance in Ukraine is a state-controlled system of dynamic and complex observation of epidemic process (situation) on the territory (facility) at the period of time, which is characterized by certain level and dynamics of sickness rate of infected people (carriers); by the state of factors of infection transmission and other circumstances, which influence the intensity of epidemic process and its spread; by the state of people’s health (common immunity, risk groups etc.), and by informational basis for development of better strategy and tactics, rational planning and effective activity of different services dealing with treatment and prevention of infectious diseases, including prevention of emergency epidemic situations.
3. State system of epidemiological surveillance consists of the set of the following measures:
  - (a) Gathering and registration of information concerning rate of sickness.
  - (b) Vertical stage-by-stage transmission of information to the highest level of administration.
  - (c) Horizontal exchange of information – between the interested agencies and institutions.

- (d) Epidemiological analysis for each stage of epidemiological surveillance (introduction of the modern information systems, including GIS).
  - (e) Assessment of epidemic situation (epidemiological diagnosis), which is conducted using the following criteria:
    - (i) Safe – infectious diseases are not registered or there could be registered their isolated instances and conditions for their mass spread are absent;
    - (ii) Not stable – sickness rate exceeds indexes of many years;
    - (iii) Outbreak – few cases (5 or more) of infectious diseases, having a common source and/or factor of transmission;
    - (iv) Epidemic – mass spread of infectious disease on a certain territory within the short period of time;
    - (v) Extreme epidemic situation – violation of regular living conditions of people on the facility or a certain territory, caused by augmentation of the number of infectious patients and connected with the appearance of a threat to the existent life rhythm of population, leading to people deaths, economic losses and political complications and possibility of pathogen spread over the borders of contaminated territory.
  - (f) Elaboration of administrative decisions and recommendations regarding corrections of the undertaken measures.
  - (g) Development of situation forecast.
4. Epidemiological surveillance after extremely dangerous infections includes sanitary protection of the territory as the most important and priority component.
5. By definition, sanitary protection of the territory of Ukraine is a system of national medical and sanitary measures (organizational, sanitary and hygienic, medical and prophylactic, antiepidemic) aimed at preventing contamination and spread of the quarantine human diseases on the territory of the country (Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever), Contagious Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (Lassa, Ebola, Marburg), malaria and other dangerous infectious diseases, which are transmitted by mosquitoes (Dengue Fever, Chicuncunia, Rift Valley, Western Nile, horse encephalomyelitis - Western American and Venezuelan, encephalitis - Japanese, Californian, Saint Louis, Murray Valley), as well as localization and liquidation of centers of these diseases.
6. Procedure and content of these measures are determined by number of legislative, regulatory and methodological documents. These are first of all “Rules of Sanitary Protection of the Territory of Ukraine”, Decree of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine “On Improvement of Anticholera Measures in Ukraine”, “Instruction on Organization and Fulfillment of Anticholera Measures,

Clinics and Laboratory Diagnostics of Cholera”, Decree of MOH of Ukraine “On Emergency Situation due to Plague and Necessary Antiepidemic Measures” as well as other decrees and instructions.

7. Considering modern possibilities of migration processes development and well developed transport communication under conditions of worsening of global epidemic situation, appearance of new infectious diseases and possible onset of outbreak of infectious diseases of unnatural character, there was proposed and implemented a new system of primary antiepidemic measures in case of suspected presence of dangerous infectious diseases. Methodological Instructions approved by Resolution of the Head State Sanitary Doctor of Ukraine ? 16 as of 12.05.2003 “Organization and Fulfillment of the Primary Measures in Case of Discovery of a Patient (Dead Body) or in Suspected Case of Contamination by Quarantine Infections, Contagious Hemorrhagic Fevers and Other Dangerous Infectious Diseases of Unclear Etiology” - is a normative act which regulates activity of the new system.

8. For realization of complex of antiepidemic measures and prevention of occurrence and spreading of especially dangerous infectious diseases, including possible acts of bioterrorism, Ukraine has the state sanitary-epidemiological surveillance system. Sanitary-epidemiological monitoring is carried out by the sanitary-epidemiological service of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine. The sanitary-epidemiological service of MOH consists of sanitary-epidemiological stations, antiplague institutions and scientific and research institutions of epidemiological specialization.

9. In order to prevent contamination and spread of quarantine and other especially dangerous infections over the state border there were created sanitary-quarantine units, which carry out medical (sanitary) control of passengers, means of transportation, luggage and goods. 91 sanitary units act in international airports, sea and river harbours, highways and railway stations.

10. National system of epidemiological surveillance functions on the local (first), regional (second) and state (third) levels.

**Tasks, which are to be solved on different administrative levels:**

- (a) **First level** – timely detection of cases of appearance of infectious diseases, notification, registration, epidemiological investigation of centers of infection, organization and implementation of measures for their localization, analysis of sickness rate and effectiveness of antiepidemic measures.

First level includes medical attendant and obstetrical offices, ambulatory polyclinics, hospitals, regional and city sanitary and epidemiological stations.

- (b) **Second level** – investigation of centers of appearance of infectious diseases, which could not be conducted on the first level, analysis of data acquired from the first level aimed to determine the reasons and conditions of appearance and spread of infectious diseases, determination of tendencies and fulfillment of surveillance.

The second level includes regional institutions of health protection and their sanitary and epidemiological services.

(c) **Third level** – national (Ministry of Health of Ukraine) - administrative - methodological management of regional sanitary and epidemiologic institutions and monitoring of undertaken preventive and antiepidemic measures, provision of practical assistance, prediction of epidemiological situation. On this level the policy of fight against infectious diseases is established, national plans and programs of fight against infectious diseases are worked out, financial and material resources, as well as vaccine for people's immunization, are distributed.

11. Ukraine has undertaken measures, implementing the project of the World Health Organization on improvement of activity of a system of laboratories, which are part of the system of epidemiologic surveillance after especially dangerous infections. It is also on the way of adjustment to international standards and integration into the global system of epidemiologic surveillance (Decree of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine ? 201 as of 07.05.2003 "On Improvement of Activity of a System of Laboratories, Which are Part of the System of Epidemiological Surveillance after Especially Dangerous Infections").

---