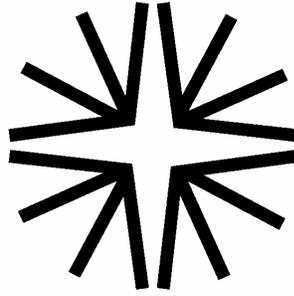


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## **SWINE INFLUENZA A(H1N1) EADRCC REPORT No. 1**

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Dtg : 30 April 2009, 12:30 UTC  
From: : Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre  
To : Points of Contact for International Disaster Response in NATO and  
Partner Countries  
Precedence : Priority  
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Reference : EAPC(C)D(98)10(Revised)  
This report consists of : -3- pages

1. In accordance with the procedures at reference, EADRCC has invited nations to share information on national measures taken to prepare for the possibility of a swine influenza pandemic.

### **2. General Situation**

2.1. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) the current situation regarding the outbreak of swine influenza A(H1N1) is evolving rapidly. Nine countries have officially confirmed human cases of infection with the same virus, including some deaths. Further and updated information is available on the WHO webpage at [www.who.int](http://www.who.int).

2.2. WHO decided on 29 April to raise a pandemic phase warning alert from phase 4 to phase 5. Phase 5 is characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus in at least two countries in one WHO region. The declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short.

### **3. Summary of measures taken by nations.**

3.1. At present the EADRCC has received information from 8 nations (Albania, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom).

3.2. From the information received it is clear that the health organizations in these countries are monitoring development of the situation on national and international levels.

3.3. Albania has established the Health Ministerial Committee which manages the situation and decides on precursory measures. The boundary police was tasked to reinforce border controls. All their staffs were equipped with individual protection means. A



ban was posed on importing pork meat from Mexico. Ministries are evaluating the situation in their subordinated agencies/bodies.

3.4. In the Czech Republic the Central Epidemiological Committee has activated all responsible parties in order to deal with the situation. The government is monitoring acute respiratory infections and influenza-like symptoms, reviewing the pharmaceutical situation and is revising national reserves. Additionally, negotiations with possible producers of pandemic vaccine are taken into consideration. Several measures have been implemented namely: a dedicated webpage with information to the general public and FAQ was established, recommendations for travellers and instructions for international airports have been issued. Sufficient numbers of protective devices for healthcare providers designated for treatment of infectious diseases have been secured.

3.5. In Germany the “Robert Koch Institute” is responsible for monitoring the health situation. The Institute is in constant contact with the European Union and US counterparts.

3.6. Hungary convened a meeting of the Pandemic Committee. Health service providers have been informed about the symptoms and measures to be taken in case of outbreak of this form of swine flu in the country. Information about the disease is available through a dedicated web page. Regional health institutions have been informed and pandemic plans are being revised. At the international airport leaflets on swine flu are provided to those who are travelling from and to the USA and Mexico. Passengers are asked to visit the airport medical point.

3.7. Latvia is monitoring the situation and stays in close contact with WHO and the EU. The national Medical Committee has met to coordinate the preparedness and response measures. A duty regime for notification, registration and investigation of flu cases has been put in place. A dedicated webpage with information to the general public and FAQ was established, recommendations for travellers have been issued. Hospitals and physicians were informed about the situation and the procedures of reporting.

3.8. In Norway the national health institutions are in close contact with WHO and the EU. They are monitoring the situation and providing advice to the general public. The health services on all level were requested to review their pandemic plans. The pharmaceutical supply situation is being reviewed. Guidelines for all primary and specialized health services have been published.

3.9. Switzerland is evaluating the risk by its health authorities. Guidance for travellers going and returning from USA and Mexico was issued and dedicated web pages with additional information are available for the general public.

3.10. Sweden is monitoring and analysing the situation and possible effects for the society and its populace. Call-centres and a dedicated web-pages ensure communication with citizens.

3.11. The United Kingdom has established a stockpile of antiviral. National Health Service organisations have pandemic flu plans in place. The Department of Health is working to ensure that these plans can be put into action. Officials across the government



met to discuss the development of the situation with regard to the outbreak of flu. MFA has updated travel advice for those travelling to and returning from Mexico.

#### 4. Information sharing

4.1. NATO Allies and Partner nations are invited to provide updated information to the EADRCC on national measures taken to prepare for the possibility of a swine influenza pandemic.

4.2. The EADRCC reports will be distributed by fax and e-mail and posted on the password protected CEP website.

5. The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre can be reached in the following ways:

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