

APRIL 3

SESSION 3

Building Technical Capacity through Strengthening Infectious Disease Surveillance in the Animal, Plant and Human Health Communities

Moderators : *Dr. Mohammed Hassar & Dr. Bassam Hayek*

09:00 – 09:25

Animal Health Surveillance
Dr. G. Yehia, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) - Lebanon

09:25 – 09:50

CDC's Programs for Strengthening Infectious Disease Surveillance
Dr. Rima Khabbaz, Director, National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control - U.S.A.

09:50 - 10:15

Cross Border Communications, Middle East Consortium on Infectious Disease Surveillance (MECIDS)
Dr. Asaad Ramlawi, Director General, Primary Health Care, Ministry of Health, MECIDS - Palestinian National Authority

SESSION 4

Strengthening Institutional, Physical and Legal Infrastructures to Manage Biological Risks

Moderators : *Mr. Terence Taylor & Mr. Abdunasser Al Shamsi*

10:15 – 10:40

The Role of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC)
H.E. Marius Grinius, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations in Geneva

10:40 – 10:55

Break

10:55 - 11:20

Implementing the WHO International Health Regulations
Dr. Nouredine Chaouki, Director of Epidemiology and infectious disease, Ministry of Health - Kingdom of Morocco

11:20 – 11:45

Japan's Efforts for Enhanced Management of Biological Risks
Dr. Katsuhisa Furukawa, Fellow, Research Institute of Science and Technology for Society, Japan Science and Technology Agency - Japan

11:45 – 12:10

National Efforts in Yemen
Professor Abdul Karim Nasher, University of Sana'a - Yemen

12:10 – 12:35

A National Case Study : World Health Organization (WHO) Project to Develop a National BioRisk Reduction Management Program
Dr. Ali Mohammadi, Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response, WHO - Switzerland

12:35 – 14:00

Lunch

SESSION 5

Biosafety and Biosecurity National and Regional Strategies

Moderators : *Mr. Terence Taylor & Dr. Khalid Tamsamani*

14:00-14:10

Preparing for the Breakout Sessions

14:10 - 16:30

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Group 1- Developing and strengthening the framework for national and regional strategy; International and National legislation and regulation – *Dr. Ahmed Bashir, Dr. Eva Busza*

Breakout Group 2- Information sharing in the region - Awareness Raising; Partnership and Collaboration; and Coordination (website/digital library; formation of a regional biosafety and biosecurity association; creating a small secretariat or other mechanisms for sharing information. expanding disease surveillance networks) - *Dr. Khalid R. Tamsamani, Mr. Barry Holmes*

Breakout Group 3- Surveillance, Diagnostics, Emergency Response and Border Control - *Assad Ramlawi, Tim Brooks*

Breakout Group 4- Laboratory and human capacity building and regional training centers- *Dr. Sabah Al Momin- Dr. Ruth Berkelman*

16:30 - 17:30

Reports from break out groups
Moderators : *Dr. Khalid Tamsamani & Dr. Heather Sheeley*

17:30 – 18:00

Conference summary
Moderators : *Mr. Terence Taylor - Dr. Bassam Hayek
Dr. Ahmed Bashir - Mr. El Majid Zayer*

Moroccan Ministry of Education, Higher Education,
Training and Scientific Research
International Council for the Life Sciences
Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi
Royal Scientific Society of Jordan

Biosafety & Biosecurity

International Conference
Healthier and more secure communities
in the MENA Region **2009**



April 2-3, 2009 Hyatt Regency Hotel
Casablanca, Morocco

Moroccan Ministry of Education, Higher Education, Training and Scientific Research
International Council for the Life Sciences
Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi
Royal Scientific Society of Jordan

Biosafety and Biosecurity International Conference 2009
Healthier and more secure communities in the MENA region

APRIL 2

08:30

Registration Opens

09:00 – 10:00

Opening framing remarks and introduction of distinguished guests by conference co-chairs

M. Ahmed Akhchichine, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Morocco

Terence Taylor, President of the International Council for Life Science (ICLS), Washington, DC - U.S.A.

Remarks by distinguished guests

H.R.H. Princess Sumaya BINT EL HASSAN, President, Royal Scientific Society of Jordan - Kingdom of Jordan

Mr. Abdunasser Al Shamsi, Biodiversity Management, Terrestrial Sector Director, Environment Agency, Abu Dhabi - U.A.E.

10:00 - 10:20

Break

SESSION 1

Defining the Problem and Creating Solutions: Challenges in the MENA and the Need for a Regional Biosafety and Biosecurity Strategy

Moderators : **Mr. Terence Taylor & Dr. Khalid Tamsamani**

10:20 – 10:45

Assessing Risks

methods, tools, and determining priorities

Tim Trevan, The International Council for Life Science, Washington, DC - U.S.A.

10:45 – 11:10

Food

Ayman El-Shibiny, Food Sciences Department, Suez Canal University - Egypt

11:10 – 11:35

Water

Dr. Bassam Hayek, Director, Environmental Research Center, Royal Scientific Society - Kingdom of Jordan

11:35 – 12:00

Human Health

Mr. Nedhif Mabrouk, Director of Hygiene and Environmental Protection in the Ministry of Public Health - Tunisia

12:00 – 12:25

Animal Health

Eng. Abeer Sirawan, Head of the Poultry Husbandry-ARD-MOA, Ministry of Agriculture - Lebanon

12:25 – 12:50

Plants

Professor Filali Maltouf, Former National Coordinator of MISOBIOOP (Pole of competences Microbiologie du Sol et Biotechnologie des Plantes) and current head of the laboratory of microbiology and molecular biology at the Faculty des Sciences de Rabat, University Mohammed V Agdal) - Kingdom of Morocco

12:50 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00-14:20

Introducing the Key Elements of a Biosafety and Biosecurity strategy for the MENA region

Terence Taylor, President, I.C.L.S. - U.S.A.

Dr. Ali Eltayeb, Head of Institute of Radiobiology - Sudan

Dr. Ahmed Bashir, Acting Director, Environment Awareness Sector (EAS), Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi - U.A.E.

14:20-14:45

The United Nations Secretary-General's Biotechnology Initiative

Dr. Eva Busza, Principal Officer, SPU/EOSG, United Nations - U.S.A.

14:45 – 15:10

Case Study: United Arab Emirates

Dr. Maan Hussein, Environment Specialist Biosecurity, Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi - U.A.E.

15:10 – 15:35

Case Study : Morocco

Dr. Khalid Tamsamani, National Coordinator at the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Scientific Research - Kingdom of Morocco

SESSION 2

Building Human Capacity through Training, Education, Awareness Raising

Moderators : **Mr. Terence Taylor & Dr. Ahmed Bashir**

15:35 – 16:00

Biosafety and Biosecurity Curricula Development in Pakistan
Dr. Anwar Nasim, OIC's - Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the promotion and cooperation of science and technology activities COMSTECH - Pakistan

16:00 – 16:25

Biosafety Training Materials

Dr. Heather Sheeley, Head of Safety, Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response, Health Protection Agency - United Kingdom

Dr. Leila Oda, President, National Biosafety Association (AnBio)- Brazil

16:25 – 16:40

Break

16:40 – 17:05

Biotechnology Research and Biosafety

Dr. Sabah Almomin, Biotechnology Department, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research - Kuwait

17:05 – 17:30

Development of virtual learning platforms and sharing learning tools, **Dr. Zayer El Majid**, Director of Technology at the Ministry of Education, Higher Education, Training and Scientific Research - Kingdom of Morocco

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Moderators : **Dr. Mohammed Hassar & Dr. Bassam Hayek**

17:30 – 17:55

Foodborne Disease Surveillance, PulseNet Middle East

Dr. Suleiman Al-Busaidy, Ministry of Health - Sultanat of Oman

17:55 – 18:20

Rapid detection and faster diagnostics

Tim Brooks, UK Health Protection Agency - United Kingdom

20:30

Gala Dinner- Guest Speaker

"Health, Ethics and Security"

Professor Nezha Guessous, Medical Biologist, Parasitologist, Honorary Professor at Hassan II University of Casablanca (Morocco), Researcher and Consultant in Human Rights and Bioethics - Kingdom of Morocco