



**Dr. Ahmet Demircan,
Minister of Health of
the Republic of Turkey,
received Waleed A.
Elkhereii, Ambassador
of Saudi Arabia**

**The 67th Session of
the WHO Regional
Committee for
Europe (RC67)**



Ministry of Health of the Republic of Turkey, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs



**Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Health
General Directorate of
EU and Foreign Affairs**

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Punjab Province of Pakistan**

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Trustee Board Meeting of
Health Sciences University

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Undersecretary of Embassy
of Zambia, visited the General
Directorate of EU and Foreign
Affairs

Consultation Meeting of
Health Security Project in
Turkey

Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU

Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Health
General Directorate of
EU and Foreign Affairs

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Turkey Visit of Shehbaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab Province of Pakistan

Shehbaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab Province of Pakistan visited Turkey on 14-16 September 2017 upon invitation of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey.

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, held a meeting with the guest Chief Minister in Istanbul on 15 September 2017, and Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, was also present at the meeting.

During the meeting, the following items were discussed: health system support provided for Pakistan, medicine analyses, training of the Pakistani healthcare professionals in Turkey, cooperation in the field of public-private partnership and medical tourism.

The guest Chief Minister visited the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Training and Research Hospital located in Istanbul on 16 September 2017 and received information about the hospital from the accompanying officials of the Ministry of Health.



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Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, received Waleed A. Elkhareii, Ambassador of

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, received Waleed A. Elkhareii, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia who paid a courtesy visit on 19 September 2017.

During the meeting, the recently increasing cooperation activities in the field of health were mentioned and Dr. Ahmet Demircan invited his Saudi counterpart Dr. Tawfik Al-Rabiah to visit Turkey.

The meeting offered an opportunity to discuss the cooperation in joint production projects in the medicine, medicine technology and biotechnology fields of the Turkish and Saudi public-private sector so as to reduce external dependence, and the cooperation in healthcare services provided by the Saudi authorities during haj season.

Trustee Board Meeting of Health Sciences University

During the Trustee Board Meeting of Health Sciences University which was held in the presence of Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, and Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, Dr. Öner Güner, General Director of EU

and Foreign Affairs, made a presentation about the hospitals operated by the Turkish Ministry of Health in Sudan and Somalia. The draft protocol on specialization trainings to be provided in the hospitals abroad operated by the Turkish Ministry of Health and on other cooperation areas was discussed.

Delegation of the Turkish Ministry of Health visited the Embassy of the Republic of Korea

Dr. Öner Güner, General Director of EU and Foreign Affairs, and Prof. Dr. İrfan Şencan, Head of Public Health Agency of Turkey, visited the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in order to

provide information and exchange opinions on Migrant Healthy Life Centers planned to be constructed with \$5M grant of the Republic of Korea for the Syrian refugees in Turkey.

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The 67th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (RC67)

Regional Committee Meeting that is organized every year by WHO Regional Office for Europe was held in Budapest, Hungary on 11-14 September 2017. A delegation headed by Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, and consisting of officials from the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency, Public Health Agency of Turkey and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting.

Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, in his speech, evaluated the works and plans of the Regional Office, mentioned the healthcare services provided to the migrants in Turkey and underlined the importance of international cooperation. Migrant-oriented works of Turkey was also among the most critical items in the Regional Report delivered by Regional Director Zsuzsanna Jakab.

Sustainable Development Goals and Multi-sector Collaboration in Health were important agenda items of the meeting. Alexis Tsipras, Prime Minister of Greece, and Prof. Dr. Recep Akdağ, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey,

attended the first and second session respectively as the honored guest. Prof. Dr. Recep Akdağ talked about the effects of multi-sectorial approach on the health transformation process in Turkey.

Besides the Sustainable Development Goals; environment and health, sustainable workforce in health, development of collaboration in access to medicines, antimicrobial resistance and implementation of International Health Regulation were discussed during the meeting.

Furthermore, Turkey took part in the panel named Cross-Border Coordination of Immunization and the technical session named Attaining Positive Outputs in Health on Country Level and perspective of Turkey was shared with the participants.

During the Regional Committee, Turkey had bilateral meetings also with Tedros Adhanam Ghebreyesus, WHO General Director, Zsuzsanna Jakab, Regional Director, Zoltan Balog, Human Capacity Minister of Hungary, and Delegation of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan.

BISEG Directors visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Directors of BISEG Association providing voluntary healthcare services in international level visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 13 September 2017. During the meeting, directors

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of the Association provided information on their activities and cooperation possibilities between BISEG and Ministry of Health in underdeveloped countries, especially in Africa geography, were discussed.

Consultation Meeting on Hospitals constructed by TIKA in Palestine, Niger, Libya and Kyrgyzstan

Turkish delegation headed by Dr. Öner Güner, General Director of EU and Foreign Affairs, visited TIKA Presidency on 6 September 2017 and held a meeting with Ali Maskan, Deputy Head of TIKA, and Keman Özdemir, Head of Department.

During the meetings such issues as annual operating expenses, personnel and equipment needs of 150-bed Palestine-Turkey Friendship

Hospital in Gaza, 50-bed Niger Maternal and Child Health and Rehabilitation Center and 38-therapy section Misurata Physiotherapy Hospital were discussed. Furthermore, it was understood that construction of Kyrgyz-Turkish Friendship Hospital in Bishkek would be completed by the end of 2017 but the equipment tender would be finalized within 2018.

Bwalya Nondo, Undersecretary of Embassy of Zambia, visited the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Bwalya Nondo, Undersecretary of Embassy of Zambia, visited the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 7 September 2017 in order to hold technical meetings and exchange opinions on training of the Zambian healthcare professional in Urla National Emergency and Disaster Training Center as previously agreed during the visit of Zambian delegation in July 2017.

During the meeting, opinion of the Zambian side was received regarding the Memorandum of Understanding, which was agreed to be revised during the visit of Zambian delegation on 19-27 July 2017 and the last version of it was confirmed accordingly. Furthermore, it was stated that the Turkish side was ready to provide training for Zambian healthcare professionals in Urla National Emergency and Disaster Training Center on condition that all expenses (international travel and accommodation) were borne by TIKA.

Meeting on Russia-Tourism Health and Prevention of Communicable Diseases

Within the framework of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism Health and Prevention of Communicable Diseases” between Turkey and Russian Federation, the Russian delegation of 6 people visited Turkey on 12-15 September 2017 in order to discuss the cooperation issues in the field of public health and exchange opinions on coxsackievirus and held meetings, in Antalya, with the Turkish delegation headed by Prof. Dr. İrfan Şencan, Head of Public Health Agency of Turkey.

During the meetings, the following issues were addressed: surveillance system and ABE surveillance, IHR data share, water monitoring (pool and drinking water), health measures, hotel service measures, diagnosis capacity and epidemiology, epidemic of coxsackievirus in Antalya and central nervous system infections. The delegation conducted examinations in hotels and health facilities in Antalya Merkez, Kemer, Belek and Manavgat and left Turkey on 16 September 2017.

Foreign Healthcare Professionals with Ongoing Training in Turkey

Training programs of the foreign healthcare staff who are receiving training as observers in the affiliated training and research hospitals of the Ministry are ongoing under bilateral agreements.

Within the framework of such programs, a total of 204 foreign healthcare staff received training as of 30 September 2017 as follows.

Training of 20 foreign healthcare staff is ongoing at the Research and Training Hospitals affiliated to the Ministry of Health.

Consultation Meeting of Health Security Project in Turkey

General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting "Health Security Action in Turkey" under RRAA 2014 programmed by the representatives of Public Health Agency of Turkey on 15 September 2017. The meeting was held in the office of Specialist Dr. Hasan Irmak, Deputy Head (Deputy Director General) of Public Health Agency of Turkey (General Directorate of Public Health).

Sudan Project Working Meeting

Within the framework of Developing Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Project for Sudan, prepared by the Turkish Ministry of Health, a meeting was organized at the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 26 September 2017 with the participation of SESRIC (Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries) and TIKA representatives.

During the meeting, it was decided to start the training programs in the project calendar prior to Lead Country Coordinator Meeting and 6th Islamic Conference of Health Ministers Meeting.

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WHO Standing Committee for Regional Committee for Europe (SCRC)

Standing Committee for Regional Committee for Europe which is the high-level decision making mechanism of WHO and of which Turkey became a member through election had a meeting on 10 September 2017 in Budapest, Hungary.

Dr. Hakkı Gürsöz, Head of Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency of Turkey, and officials from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting.

Islamic Countries International Transplant Network Project


Within the scope of Islamic Countries International Transplant Network Project which is prepared by Turkish Organ Transplantation Foundation and suggested to be implemented by the Organization for Islamic Cooperation in collaboration with the Turkish Ministry of Health, a meeting was organized on 29 September 2017 with the participation of Turkish Organ Transplantation Foundation, General Directorate of Health Services and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Services.

Preparations for Turkey Health Alumni Congress

The preliminary meeting on Turkey Health Alumni Congress which is planned to be hosted by Ankara Chamber of Commerce and Ankara Chamber of Industry on 1-3 March 2018 in cooperation with the Ministry of Health was held at the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 28 September 2017. Agenda of the congress and program flow as well as the other technical issues were discussed during the meeting.

Treatment of Foreign Patients in Turkey

As per "Article 14 of the Basic Law on Health Services no 3359" 142 patients and as per Bilateral Agreements and Protocols 572 patients - 714 foreign patients in total - were treated in Turkey as of Saturday, September 30, 2017.



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