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Ministry of Health
General Directorate of
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The 4th Session of Turkey-Ghana Joint Trade and Economic Commission (JEC)



Mr. Mehmet Müezzinoğlu, the Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey and the Co-President of the 4th Session of Turkey-Ghana Joint Trade and Economic Commission (JEC) paid a visit to Ghana, Akkra on 14-16 April 2014 with a delegation. Mr. Mustafa Kabakçı, Deputy of Ankara and İsmail Kaşdemir, Deputy of Çanakkale and Head of the Ghana Friendship Group, representatives from the Ministries of Health and Economy also took part at the delegation.

Within the scope of the visit, the minister visited the **Oruç Reis Frigate** and had talks with the related persons.



Mr. Minister also met with **Kwesi Amissah-Arthur, Vice President of Ghana, Haruna Idrissu, the Ghana side JEC co-chairman and Minister of Trade and Industry** and Dr. Alfred Sugri Tia, Deputy Minister of Health.

Following the meeting with Deputy Minister of Health of Ghana, the medical equipment and supplies contributions in kind and worth of 100 thousand USD were delivered to the Ministry of Health of Ghana by Turkey with a ceremony. Health Ministers of the two sides were present during the delivery.



Finally, on the **16th of April, 2014**, Mr. Minister met with **Haruna Idrissu, the Minister of Trade and Industry of Ghana** and signed a Memorandum of Understanding on JEC.

The Minister then met with Minister of Interior of Ghana and signed the Agreement on Security Cooperation between Turkey and Ghana.

Minister of Health Accepted the Ambassador of Pakistan in Ankara (29 April 2014)



Mr. Mehmet Müezzinoğlu, Minister of Health, accepted Mr. Muhammad Haroon Shaukat, the Ambassador of Pakistan in Ankara at his authority on 29th of April, 2014.

During the meeting, the Ambassador asked for support on the operation of the **Muzaffargarh Hospital** by Turkish physicians, nurses and other health workers for 1 year and in the meantime training of Pakistani health workers by their Turkish colleagues. The hospital was constructed by Turkey in Pakistan.

The Minister said that a delegation from the Ministry would visit Pakistan, the following week for an investigation on this issue and that the inauguration of the Hospital was being planned in June 2014 with the participation of **the spouse of the Prime Minister**.

The Visit of the Undersecretary of the Minister of Health of Nigeria (3 April 2014)



Minister of Health Accepted the Ambassador of Benin in Ankara (29 April 2014)



Mr. Mehmet Müezzinoğlu, Minister of Health, accepted Mr. Moise Kerekou, the Ambassador of Benin in Ankara at his authority on 29th of April, 2014.

During the meeting, the Ambassador was debriefed on the status of the agreement on health cooperation signed between the two countries on 11th of December 2013. The Ambassador then informed on Benin Government's health reform efforts in recent years and asked for support for the health centre that was being planned to be built in Benin by TİKA.

Mr. Minister expressed his satisfaction on the development of collaboration in the field of health and told that the agreement was at the Prime Ministry and he expected it to be referred to the parliamentary for consideration. He also mentioned that Turkey was open to cooperate in all fields with Benin.

Prof. Dr. Nihat Tosun, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, accepted **Sanni S. Bala** Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health of Nigeria and **Olowu Omobolanle**, Director responsible for Public-Private Partnership (PPP) subjects while their private visit to Turkey on 3 April 2014. During the meeting, issues on a draft agreement on strengthening cooperation in the field of health between two countries and sharing experiences of Turkey about PPP were raised.

The Visit of Germany Baden-Württemberg Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economy



Dr. Nils Schmid, the Deputy Prime Minister of Germany Baden-Württemberg and the Minister of Finance and Economy, visited our country on **1 to 6'th of April, 2014**. During the visit, the Minister was accepted by **Prof. Dr. Nihat Tosun**, the Undersecretary of the Minister of Health on the 2'nd of April.

At the meeting, the needs in medical devices of private healthcare institutions in Turkey and cooperation issues in this field were discussed. Also views on bureaucratic obstacles in the permitting phase of new drugs at the entry to the Turkish market and changes in legislation in this area were exchanged.

Workshop on Cross-Border Health Care Services Strategy

The General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Health organized a workshop on **“Cross-border health care services of Turkey”** at the **Grand-Anadolu Hotel** on the 2'nd of April, 2014.



A number of about 50 participants from Ministries, public institutions, think tanks, civil society organizations and academia attended the meeting. Mr.Öner Güner, the Director General of the EU and Foreign Affairs made opening remarks on the activities on cross-border health services and strategic trends.

Following the speech of the Director General, the participants were split into **working groups** to discuss on the following 5 thematic areas:

strengthening health systems, activity fields, visibility, health economy and financing, health tourism.

Each of the groups prepared a report on their discussions with the SWOT analysis technique.



On the 10'th of April, 2014, an evaluation meeting was held in İstanbul, Medipol University to review the outputs of the workshop. Participants from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs, **Prof. Dr Sabahattin Aydın** from the Medipol University, **Prof. Dr.Haydar Sur**, **Prof. Dr.Osman Hayran** and **Ass.Dr.Mustafa Taşdemir**, the Director of the Istanbul Provincial Public Health Directorate attended the meeting. Especially the titles to be prioritized on healthcare services were discussed during this meeting.

The visit of the WHO Delegation



A meeting was held on 31 March to 1st of April, 2014 with the participation of WHO officials at the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs to discuss issues related to the establishment of Technical Expertise Offices (Geographically Dispersed Offices-GDO).

During the talks between the delegation from the Ministry of Health and the WHO delegation under the chairmanship of Dr. Guénaél Rodier, Director of the Division of Communicable Diseases, Health Security and Environment at WHO Regional Office for Europe; issues such as the working areas, the technical and logistic capability of the WHO-Geographically Dispersed Office (GDO) in Turkey, on "Preparedness on Health and Humanitarian Aid" that is being planned to be established and future steps to be taken were addressed.

Establishment of the WHO Country Office



The "**Law on Ratification of the Agreement on the Establishment of a WHO Country Office in Turkey**" was

handled at the Foreign Affairs Commission of the **Grand National Assembly of Turkey**, On 9th of April, 2014 and was endorsed by the Commission.

A delegation from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs under the chairmanship of Mr. Ekrem Atbakan, Deputy Undersecretary of the Minister of Health attended the session.

Second Visit of Experts on EU-Turkey Visa Liberalization Dialogue



The Information Meeting on the **Second Visit of Experts on EU-Turkey Visa Liberalization Dialogue** was held on the **2nd of April, 2014** by the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. Representatives from the General Directorate of Health for Border and Coastal Areas and our General Directorate attended the meeting.

At the meeting held for briefing the second panel of experts on their visits from 1 to 15 April and from 4 to 8 May, 2014 with the subject "Borders, Visa, Immigration, Asylum and Readmission" and within the framework of the visa liberalization dialogue between Turkey and EU, the participants were informed on the agenda of the visit.

The meeting on the **Second Visit of Experts on EU-Turkey Visa Liberalization Dialogue** was held on the **8th of April, 2014** by the **Ministry of Interior**. Representatives from our General Directorate, the Public Health Agency of Turkey and the General Directorate of Health for Border and Coastal Areas attended the meeting.

Representatives from the General Directorate of Migration Administration of the Ministry of Interior, Turkish National Police, the General Command of Gendarmerie, the Command of Coast Guard, the General Directorate of Customs Protection, the Command of Turkish Land Forces, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Ministry of Education participated in the meeting. Participants presented and spoke on the management of regular and irregular immigration in Turkey, the practice on their area of responsibility, policy, legislations, managerial capacity, statistics, tendency and expectations.

Delegation from Sudan Ministry of Health Visited our Country



A delegation from the treatment committee of the General Directorate for International Health of the Ministry of Health of Sudan paid a visit about the foreign patients in Turkey, Within the scope of the current *"Protocol between The Government of Sudan and the Government of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation in the Fields of Health and Medicine"* signed between the Ministries of Health in 2007, on **1 to 7 April, 2014**, to our country.

Mr. **Fazaa Abdalla AbdElseed**, Deputy Director of International Health and Planning of Ministry of Health of Sudan and **Dr. Aya Al Hassan** visited our General Directorate. The treatment process of the Sudanese patients, the patient tracking program that is being used since January 2014 and difficulties related to the treatment process of the patients were spoken during the visit.

The delegation was also briefed by the International Affairs and Project Management Department of the Public Hospitals Union of Turkey, on their organization, secondary and tertiary health care, international patient tracking system, treatment of Sudanese patients within the framework of Bilateral Cooperation Agreement.

The delegation then visited the Ankara Atatürk Training and Research Hospital and Ankara Yenimahalle Public Hospital.

The Sudanese delegation also visited the Sudanese patients at Dr. Sami Ulus Women and Child Health Training and Research Hospital and Dışkapı Yıldırım Beyazıt Training and Research Hospitals.

Delegation from Oman Ministry of Health Visited our Country



A delegation from the Ministry of Health of Oman visited our country to discuss on bilateral agreement issues in the field of health with the authorities of the Ministry of Health of Republic of Turkey on **6 to 11 April, 2014**.

The following activities took place during the visit:

- **At the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs;** presentation on the Turkish Health Transformation Programme and Health Tourism in Turkey,
- **At Turkish Public Health Agency;** presentation on Family Medicine Implementations and Financing
- **At General Directorate of Emergency Health Care; visits to SAKOM and EWRS Center,**
- **At the Public Hospitals Union of Turkey;** presentation on secondary and tertiary Healthcare services.

The delegation moved to İstanbul on the 8th of April and visited a private hospital, Mehmet Akif Ersoy Training and Research Hospital, a Family Medicine Center and a Public Health Center.

Cross-Border Threats- TAIEX Workshop

The Multicountry TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) Workshop about **Cross-Border Health Threats** was held on **9 to 10 April, 2014** in **Croatia** by **EU DG Enlargement**. Staff from our General Directorate and the Turkish Public Health Agency attended the meeting.

Items on the decision of the commission on **Cross-Border Health Threats** that came into force on 6 November 2013 were discussed during the workshop. Representatives of the competent authorities from EU candidate countries and potential candidate countries participated in the workshop.

The Visit of Technical Delegation from Yemen Ministry of Health and Population



A technical delegation from the Ministry of Health and Population of Yemen visited our Country on 23 to 27 April to negotiate on cooperation in the field of health and the model on public-private partnership.

Within the scope of the programme in Ankara, informative presentations and meeting were held at the General Directorate of Health Investments.

Besides, meetings were held with officials of private companies operating in the sector and field visits were conducted.

The delegation continued their programme in İstanbul on 26'th of April, 2014 and inspected operations in the field of public-private partnership.

Training of Foreign Health Personnel in Turkey

As of April 30, 2014;

134 Foreign Health Personnel (107 MD, 27 allied health personnel) **have completed** their training

19 Foreign Health Personnel (13 MD, 6 allied health personnel) **proceeding** their training

157 Foreign Health Personnel (95 MD, 62 allied health personnel) **have been planned** for training

Total = 310 Foreign Health Personnel (**215 MD, 95 allied health personnel**)

List of foreign health personnel that were trained in April 2014 in Turkey

Date	Country	Number	Subject of training	Venue
6-26 April 2014	Afghanistan	2 md 1 ahp	Otorhinolaryngology, operating room	Dışkapı Yıldırım Beyazıt Training and Research Hospital
21 April-9 May 2014	Kyrgyzstan	2	In vitro fertilization (IVF)	Etlık Zübeyde Hanım Training and Research Hospital
24-30 April 2014	Azerbaijan	3	Thalassemia	Turkish Public Health Agency
26 April-24 May 2014	Azerbaijan	2	Dermatology	Ankara Training and Research Hospital
14 April-10 May 2014	Kosovo	7 md 3 ahp	Surgery, Ophthalmology, Radiology	Ankara Training and Research Hospital



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