



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

Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU

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Hello

The Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU, published by the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs of MoH, has left one year behind.

We worked hard for one year with an amateur spirit that since March 2013, where we were aiming to increase the visibility of activities of our General Directorate in the field of health, to inform our provincial staff more actively about our activities abroad and in this context to ensure their participation in activities abroad.

In this process, we received feedback in many areas especially from the Central Service Units, Related Organizations and staff of the Provincial Organization of the Ministry of Health, and our external stakeholders with constant cooperation as of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the European Union Affairs, Economy; Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and non-governmental organizations.

Your interest encouraged us to take our steps faster to do even better. Within this incentive we started to publish our bulletin in three languages Turkish, English and Arabic, since February 2014. All of our bulletins are available at <http://disab.saglik.gov.tr>. You can also explore the activities of our General Directorate from the web site in Turkish, English and Arabic.

Dear readers,

The mission of the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Health is to contribute the provision of human oriented and sustainable health services, to provide humanitarian health aid and support in health system to regions and countries in need, by means of planning, coordination and collaboration with related internal and external stakeholders within the scope of the aim of ranking among the leading countries in the establishment and implementation of health policies regionally and globally.

We would be pleased to receive your comments and suggestions regarding our activities to the following address; disab.ed@saglik.gov.tr.

We wish you all health and happiness.

**Mr. Öner Güner,
Director General of
EU and Foreign Affairs of the MoH**

43'th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence and Reception of The Sultanate of Brunei



Mr. Agah Kafkas, Deputy Minister of Health attended the celebration of **Independence Day of Bangladesh** due to the 43'th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence anniversary of and **Brunei Darussalam National Day Reception** held on March 26, 2014.

The reception hosted by **Ambassador Rahman** and his wife **Shameem Akhtar**, started with recitation of the Bangladesh and Turkish National Anthems. The anthems of both countries were performed by a chorus composed of Bangladeshi citizens.



The Deputy Minister of Health of Kosovo and his accompanying delegation visited Turkey (11 to 13 March 2014)



Dr. Kadir Hüseyin, the Deputy Minister of Health of Kosovo and his accompanying delegation visited Turkey on 11 to 13 March, 2014.

The Deputy Minister and his delegation were also received by **Prof. Dr. Nihat Tosun**, the Undersecretary of the Minister of Health at his authority During the meeting; Kosovan health workers in Turkey for training purposes and the situation of the Kosovan patients in our country were discussed. The Deputy Minister invited the Undersecretary of the Minister of Health to Kosovo.



The delegation attended an evaluation meeting held at our General Directorate and later inspected the **Turkey Training and Research Hospital** and **Ankara Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Hospital**.



Mogadishu, Somalia-Turkey Training and Research Hospital Project



As part of evaluation and preparation work Mogadishu, Somalia-Turkey Training and Research Hospital Project scheduled to service this year, a meeting was held at the office of the Undersecretary of MoH, **Prof. Dr. Nihat Tosun** on **13'th March, 2014**.

Mr.Öner Güner, Director General of Foreign Affairs and EU and representatives from the General Directorate of Emergency Health Services and Turkish Public Hospitals Authority attended the meeting. The authorities informed the Undersecretary on the process of the project.

Barbaros Turkish Maritime Task Group's Africa Travel

Barbaros Turkish Maritime Task Group which carries out operations depending on the Navy will visit **26 countries** in the African continent on **March 17 to June 27, 2014**.

Guinea-Bissau and Senegal Health Week Preparation Program



Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau Rui Barbosa Duatr has written a letter addressing **Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan**, requesting a team of Turkish doctors to perform a working visit to Guinea. Regarding this request, a study visit was conducted to Gine Bissau before the health week, to investigate the infrastructure, physical suitability of health centers and deficiencies of hardware.

Within the scope of this programme, a delegation from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Health visited **Gine Bissau** on **9 to 13 March, 2014** and met with Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau, the Minister of Health, Bisav Mayor and our Bissau Ambassador. The delegation later moved to **Senegal**, on **13-14 March, 2014** and met with the Prime Minister of Senegal and our Dakhar Ambassador. During the visits discussions were held on the subject.

Agreement on Cooperation between our country and the Niger in the Field of Health and Medical Sciences



The Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields Health and Medical Sciences between the Governments of the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Niger that

was signed in **Niamey** on **8'th of January 2013**, was published in the Official Gazette with the 2013/5714 numbered Decision the Council of Ministers and came into effect on the 19'th of January 2014.

The agreement was signed by Deputy Prime Minister, **Bekir Bozdağ** and Nigerian Minister of State, Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, African Integration and Abroad Nijerians, **Mr. Mohamed Bazoum** during the Turkish Prime Minister's trip to Africa, covering Gabon, Niger and Senegal, on 8'th of January, 2013.

The father of Deputy Minister, Mr. Agah Kafkas; Cemaleddin Kafkas passed away



The dearest father of Deputy Minister, Mr. Agah Kafkas; Mr. Cemaleddin Kafkas passed away on 31st of March, 2014.

We share the pain of the heart and extend our condolences to the Deputy Minister, Mr. Agah Kafkas and his sorrowful family, spouse, relatives and friends. Almighty God may have mercy on him.

Turkish-American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) Conference 2014



The Turkish-American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) Conference was held on 22-23 March, 2014 in **Washington, Mr. Öner Güner**, Director General of Foreign Affairs and EU attended the conference.

At the conference, the pre-announcement was made for the "Congress on Turkish Doctors Abroad" that will be held on 29 October to 2 November, 2014 in İstanbul. There were participants including private universities, TUBITAK and the Undersecretariat of Defense Industries. At the meeting, the award-winning 6 out of the 8 young Turkish researchers were working in the field of health. Moreover talks were held with many researchers operating in the biomedical field and the Turkish American Association of Physicians in New York.

Financial Briefing Meeting Day on the Budget of WHO European Region



The Financial Briefing Meeting Day on the Budget of WHO Euro was held in Copenhagen on 21st of March, 2014 and our staff from our General Directorate observed the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting consisted of the financial structure of WHO, components and content issues related to the budget, in budgetary preparations for the future years.

WHO Turkey-Emergency and Humanitarian Aid GDO Meeting



A workshop was held on the establishment of the WHO-Geographically Dispersed Office (GDO) in Turkey, on Emergency and Humanitarian Aid with the participation of WHO technical officers at the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs of MoH on 31 Mart to 1 April, 2014.

The First Meeting of Leading Coordinator Countries of the OIC

A delegation from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs, attended the first meeting of Leading Coordinator Countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) that was held in **Jakarta**, from **24 to 26 March, 2014**, within the scope of the 8th Meeting of Steering Committee on Health of the OIC and the Strategic Health Programme of Action (SHPA).

Details on the administrative and technical arrangements about the **5th Conference of Health Ministers of the OIC** that will be hosted in our country in 2015, came up in the said meeting.

The Project for Promoting Services for People with Disabilities



Within the scope of the EU funded project for “Promoting Services for People with Disabilities”, a workshop that was technically supported by WHO and conducted by the beneficial, on “Organization and Leadership on Mental Health Services” was held on 13th of March 2014.

Within the scope of the said workshop, the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, Turkish Public Health Agency, Turkish Public Hospitals Agency and WHO officials dealing with the issue conducted presentations. Also the progress recorded, problems encountered and possible solutions in field of mental health were discussed.

ECDC Visit



A delegation including authorities from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and the Turkish Public Health Agency of the Ministry of Health, conducted a study visit to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (**ECDC**) in **Stockholm** on **31st of March, 2014**.

The objective of the visit was to initiate the evaluation process that will be conducted by ECDC in 2014 to evaluate developments on the closing criteria in infectious diseases and to ensure the promotion of institutional structure and operation between ECDC and Turkey.

Conference 'Health in Europe, making it fairer'



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

A Conference, addressing the issue of improving fairness and equity in health in Europe, improving access to health and combatting discrimination in health, was held by the European Commission in **Brussels**, on **18th of March, 2014** and staff from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the conference.

At the Conference; current issues on fairness in health, access to health and discrimination in health in Europe were highlighted, information on policies and good practice in improving fairness and equity in health and combatting discrimination were exchanged and at conclusion, common basic principles were also mentioned.

Fundamental Rights Sub-Area Main Stakeholder Meeting Within the Context of IPA II Process

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY - PRIME MINISTRY



SECRETARIAT GENERAL FOR EU AFFAIRS

Staff from the General Directorate attended the meeting on Fundamental Rights Sub-Area Main Stakeholders within the context of IPA II Process that was held by the Ministry of EU on **28th of March, 2014**.

Information was given on Sector programming document that was being prepared for Fundamental Rights Sub-Area under three sectors; the Interior, Judiciary and Fundamental Rights, out of nine priority sectors within the scope of the Country Strategy Paper.

Training of Foreign Healthcare Personnel in Turkey



As of March 31'st, 2014, training of 71 foreign health personnel has been completed, where the training of 48 foreign health personnel is going on. Training of 43 foreign health personnel has been planned, thus a total of 161 foreign health personnel (111 physicians, 50 allied health personnel) will be trained in our country.

List of foreign health personnel that will be trained in March 2014 in Turkey

Date	Country	Number	Subject of training	Venue
23 February-22 March 2014	Kosovo	10 physicians	Cardiology, Paediatrics, anaesthesia	Yüksek İhtisas Training and Research Hospital - Ankara Paediatric Oncology Training and Research Hospital
2-22 March 2014	Afghanistan	4 physicians	Cardiology and internal medicine	Dışkapı Yıldırım Beyazıt Training and Research Hospital
1-29 March 2014	Azerbaijan	8 physicians	Plastic Surgery	Ankara Training and Research Hospital
16-29 March 2014	Moldova	10 physicians	Gynaecology	Ankara Zekai Tahir Burak Women Health Training and Research Hospital
16-28 March 2014	Hungary	10 physicians, 6 allied health personnel	Emergency	İzmir Urla International Emergency and Disasters Training and Simulation Center

Turkey-US Economic and Commercial Cooperation Strategy



A preparatory meeting for the third ministerial meeting of the Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation (FSECC) that will be held on 14'th of May, 2014 in Washington, D.C., was held by the ministry of Economics on **21'st of March, 2014**.

The agenda item "**Medicine Issues (exchange rate, parallel applicant system)**" under the item "**Policy Initiatives on Promoting Structural Development**" is related with the Ministry of Health and are handled at the EU-Turkey Customs Union Joint Committee meetings that are held semi-annually.



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