



WHO Regional Office for Europe

Recent activities and plans for 2010

EU HIV/AIDS Civil Society Forum meeting
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- HIV/AIDS, TB Plus team
- Prevention
- Treatment and care
- Surveillance/M&E
- HIV/TB coinfection
- Hepatitis

HIV/AIDS, TB Plus team

- Under Division of Health Programmes, within the Communicable Diseases Unit
- 4 HIV, 3 TB, 2 surveillance, 1 advocacy officers; dedicated staff in country offices, mainly in eastern European and central Asian countries
- Geographical focus - 53 Member States

- Main outputs for HIV/AIDS:
 - evidence for increased awareness and understanding of the epidemic;
 - assistance to countries to develop effective and appropriate health sector policies, regarding HIV/AIDS;
 - technical support to countries to implement large-scale essential HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services, including universal access to antiretroviral treatment; and
 - improved national and regional HIV/AIDS surveillance and information.

Prevention

- HIV testing and counselling policy framework
 - Final document expected beginning of 2010
- Quality improvement in HIV prevention
- Work on MSM issues
 - Focus on eastern Europe and central Asia
- Work on harm reduction
 - Harm reduction strategy for the European Region

Treatment and care

- WHO headquarters released recently:
 - Rapid Advice - 2009 WHO ART guidelines for adults and adolescents
 - Rapid Advice - 2009 WHO guidelines Use of ARVs for Treating Pregnant Women and Preventing HIV Infection in Infants
 - Rapid Advice - 2009 WHO guidelines - HIV and Infant Feeding
- Related to when to start, what to use in 1st and 2nd line treatment, what is recommended for lab monitoring, TB/HIV coinfection, HIV/HBV coinfection.
- WHO/Europe does not intend to upgrade its protocols

- WHO/Europe + ECDC joint surveillance report 2008
- Data describes:
 - Cases of HIV infection by date of diagnosis.
 - Cases of AIDS by date of diagnosis and deaths among AIDS cases.
 - Annual numbers of diagnostic HIV tests performed (excluding tests undertaken to screen blood donations and unlinked anonymous testing).



"WHO will monitor countries' health-sector responses in scaling up efforts towards universal access, and progress will be reported on annually."

59th World Health Assembly, May 2006

Surveillance/M&E

- Since 2006, WHO, UNICEF and UNAIDS monitor and report annually on global progress in the health sector response to HIV/AIDS
- 3 inter-related monitoring and reporting efforts in the past years:
 - Monitoring the implementation of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
 - Monitoring the health sector response to HIV/AIDS towards universal access (WHO)
 - Monitoring access to HIV services for women and children (UNICEF and WHO)
- Harmonization of data collection, validation and analysis in 2009
 - Joint reporting tool
 - Joint publication on global progress 2009

- Preparation for Universal Access progress report 2010
 - Data collection for the 2009 data (on the health sector response to HIV/AIDS) will take place from second half of January through March 2010 (deadline 31 March 2010)
 - In 2010, UA progress report is expected to be brief (much shorter version than 2009), as there is also UNGASS report expected from UNAIDS (based on country UNGASS reports)
 - Data collection will be harmonized for these two reports
 - Two tools for data collection, however, one web site platform

TB/HIV

- WHO headquarters and the Regional Office for Europe will conduct a TB/HIV Regional meeting prior to the World AIDS Conference
- Venue: Vienna, 16-17 July 2010
- Participants - from all 53 Member States of the European Region - the TB and HIV managers, community representatives, other stakeholders and donors.
- The meeting aims to foster a discussion on achievements, challenges and the way forward in addressing the TB/HIV co-infection in the WHO European Region.

Hepatitis

- Survey project on country policy towards viral hepatitis control (joint with World Hepatitis Alliance)
 - Identify national policies with regards to hepatitis B and C including surveillance, prevention, access to treatment and awareness. So far, 20 countries of eastern and central Europe have participated in this survey.
- Case definition project
 - At the moment, there is no standardized case definition for recording and reporting all cases in the region.
 - WHO plans to convene a consultation meeting with experts across the WHO/Europe region to come up with standard case definitions for chronic hepatitis B and C infections.
 - This meeting is scheduled to take place in the second-third quarter of 2010
- Prevalence
 - WHO/Europe is working on a report presenting prevalence information of hepatitis B and C viruses focusing on high-risk groups mostly from eastern European countries. The result of the report stem from published and unpublished prevalence studies gathered from various databases and gray literature. The report will be available soon in English and Russian.

- Thank you!
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