



EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action - Agreement Number: 2012 2103

The impact on maritime transport of health threats due to biological, chemical and radiological agents, including communicable diseases

Final Conference of the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action, 27th September 2016, Rhodes, Greece

Summary

Background

The European Union (EU) Joint Action SHIPSAN ACT started in February 2013 and will end on October 2016. Its general objective is to strengthen an integrated strategy and sustainable mechanisms at EU level for safeguarding the health of travellers and crew of passenger and cargo ships and for preventing the cross border spread of diseases. It involves a total of 33 partners in 24 **countries**. The final conference took place on the 27th of September 2016 in Rhodes.

Objectives of the final conference

The meeting objective was to disseminate the results of the Joint Action to stakeholders.

Conference topics:

The aim of the Final Conference was to present the results and the impact and added value of the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action in preparedness and response to public health events, enhancement of capacities in regards to maritime transport and health threats. Additionally, scientific sessions were held presenting research developments for maritime health and hygiene.

A poster session was held where results of the Joint Action were presented.

Participants had the opportunity to hear from 18 EUMS and from Taiwan about the take up of activities at national and local level and the impact the EU SHIPSAN ACT Joint Action had at (i) their daily work lives, (ii) preventing, assessing and coordinating to serious cross border health threats caused by chemical, radiological, biological agents including infectious diseases and (iii) addressing public health events of international concern at national and local level.

Participants:

A total of 85 participants from 23 countries (22 EUMS and Taiwan) attended the Final Conference [response rate: 88% (23 out of the 25) of the EUMS invited, all associated (100%) and all except three (83%) collaborating partners]. Attendees included representatives from port health authorities, universities, public health institutions, ministries, international organizations, professional associations the cruise and ferry shipping industry and water technology.

- **Associated partners:** 32 participants from 10 EUMS
- **Collaborating partners/Collaborating ports:** 30 participants from 15 EUMS, 2 participants from Taiwan

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- **Maritime industry representatives:** 17 participants from cruise lines, Cruise Line International Association
- **European Organisations/Agencies:** European Commission Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFAEA), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- **International Organisations:** World Health Organisation (WHO)

Group photo



Photos from the Poster Session, SHIPSAN Final Conference, 27 September 2016:



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