



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

Interim Collaborative Group Meeting, 16th October 2014, Luxembourg

Summary

Background

The European Union (EU) Joint Action SHIPSAN ACT started in February 2013 and will run for 39 months. 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 32 partners in 24 countries. The Interim Collaborative Group meeting took place on the 16th of October 2014 in Luxembourg. A total of 47 participants from 20 countries attended the meetings (response rate: 87%, 20 out of the 23 associated and collaborating partners invited) coming from port health authorities, universities, public organizations, ministries, international organizations, professional associations and the cruise shipping industry.

Meeting objectives

The meeting objectives were to:

- decide on the methodology for developing deliverables,
- discuss and agree on the actions required to ensure the delivery of the Joint Action.

Methods

The meeting included an a) update on progress by work packages progress b) focus groups and c) structured discussions in plenary sessions.

The focus groups were provided with documents and questions to promote and facilitate discussions. Draft notes to be considered for a future legal framework were also prepared by members of the coordinating team and were brought to the attention of the groups.

Main outcomes

The partnership met to discuss progress and the long-term vision for the Joint Action activities. The partnership approved the work plan for the coming year. All participants agreed that this was a fruitful meeting and important decisions were made regarding the further achievement of objectives

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and development of deliverables. All participants were satisfied with the level of development and agreed that the Joint Action is progressing according to the plan. The following qualities were noted by participants: the good working environment, the efficient coordination, the direction provided by DG SANCO and CHAFEA, as well as the involvement of all partners in the implementation of activities and the high level of active participation of EU MS. A summary list of actions to be taken as a result of the interim collaborative group meeting was developed.

