

# **The International Health Regulations (2005)**

**-- IHR Review Committee**

**-- IHR Emergency Committee**

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**Ports, Airports and Ground Crossings**

**HSE/GCR/CAD-PAG-Lyon**



# IHR Review Committee

## Functions:

- make technical recommendation to the WHO Director-General regarding amendments to these Regulations
- provide technical advice to the WHO Director-General with respect to standing recommendations, and any modifications and terminations
- provide technical advice to the WHO Director-General on any matter referred to it by the WHO Director-General regarding the functioning of these regulations

# The 2011, 2014 IHR Review Committee Meetings



SIXTY-FOURTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY  
Provisional agenda item 13.2

AG 4/10  
5 May 2011

## **Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)**

### **Report of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) in relation to Pandemic (H1N1) 2009**

**Report by the Director-General**

The Director-General has the honour to transmit to the Sixty-fourth World Health Assembly the report of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) in relation to Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 (see Annex).

## **Meeting of the IHR Review Committee on Second Extensions for establishing national public health capacities and on IHR implementation**

13-14 November 2014  
Geneva, Switzerland

The Review Committee on second extensions for establishing national public capacities are to meet from 13–14 November 2014 at WHO Headquarters in Geneva, in the Executive Board Room. The meeting is open to all States Parties to the International Health Regulations (IHR) and to the United Nations and its specialised agencies and other relevant intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations in official relations with WHO.

# Perspectives for long term

The “implementation” of the IHR – a continuing process for all countries

- States should “maintain” core capacities and be able to use it effectively, when and where needed. (e.g. Ebola PHEIC)
- **Test and maintain capacities** and new monitoring approach

Not only to have the capacity developed, but also to have better information on the robustness of State Parties’ core capacity.

# Report of the Review Committee on Second Extensions for Establishing National Public Health Capacities and on IHR Implementation Informed at 136<sup>th</sup> Executive Board and 68<sup>th</sup> WHA

*Key recommendation from the Committee:*

*States Parties should urgently:*

*(i)strengthen the current self-assessment system: annual self-assessment reports and planning processes should be enhanced through multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder discussions;*

*(ii)implement in-depth reviews of significant disease outbreaks and public health events.*

*The Secretariat:*

*should develop through regional consultative mechanisms options to move from exclusive self-evaluation to approaches that combine self-evaluation, peer review and voluntary external evaluations involving a combination of domestic and independent experts.*



# IHR Review Committee 2015 - EBOLA

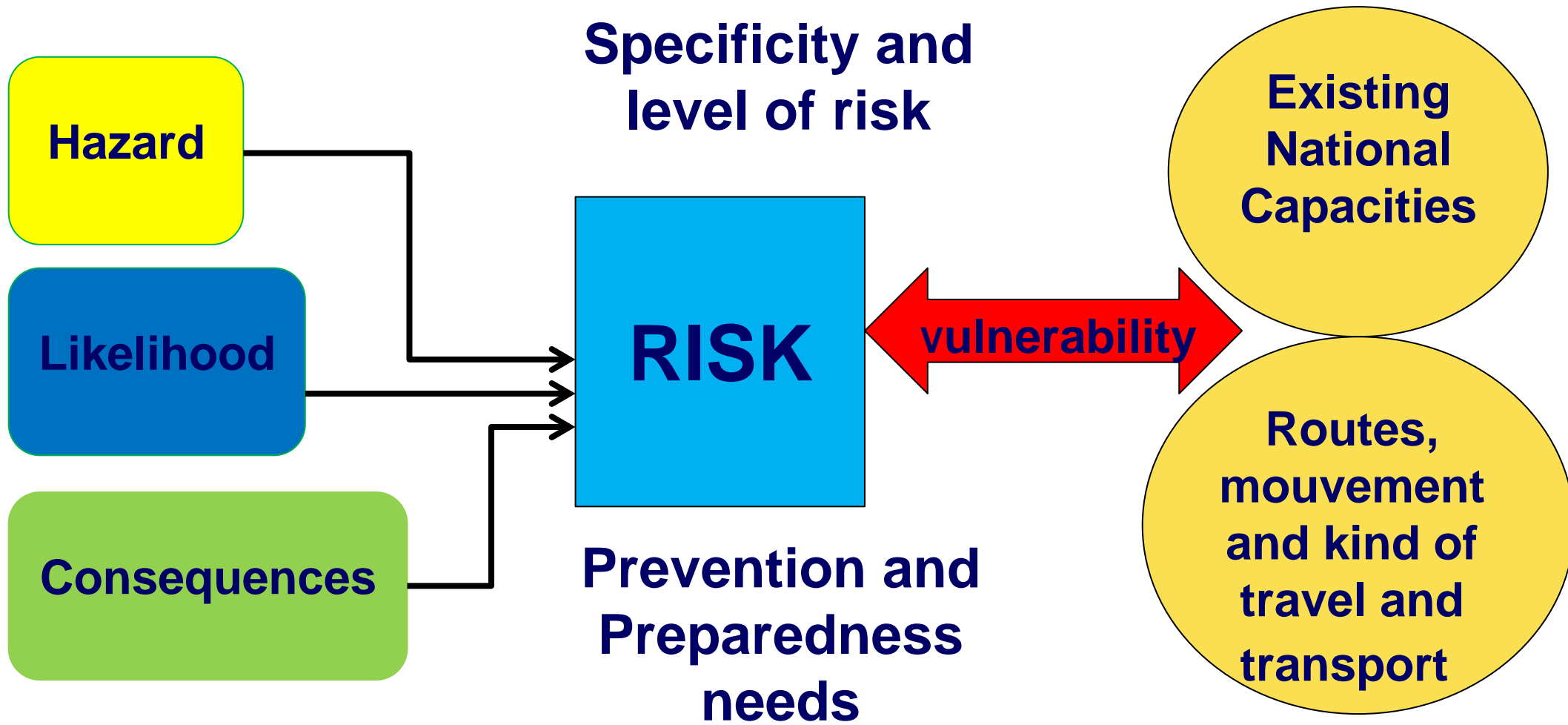
## The Review Committee on the Role of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the Ebola Outbreak and Response

At the World Health Assembly in May 2015, Member States determined a mandate for a Review Committee of the International Health Regulations (IHR) with the following objectives:



- to assess the effectiveness of the International Health Regulations (2005) with regard to the prevention, preparedness and response to the Ebola outbreak, with a particular focus on notification and related incentives, temporary recommendations, additional measures, declaration of a public health emergency of international concern, national core capacities, and context and links to the Emergency Response Framework and other humanitarian responsibilities of the Organization;
- to assess the status of implementation of recommendations from the previous Review Committee in 2011 and related impact on the current Ebola outbreak;
- to recommend steps to improve the functioning, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency of the International Health Regulations (2005), including WHO response, and to strengthen preparedness and response for future emergencies with health consequences, with proposed timelines for any such steps.

# Risk Assessment - Vulnerability





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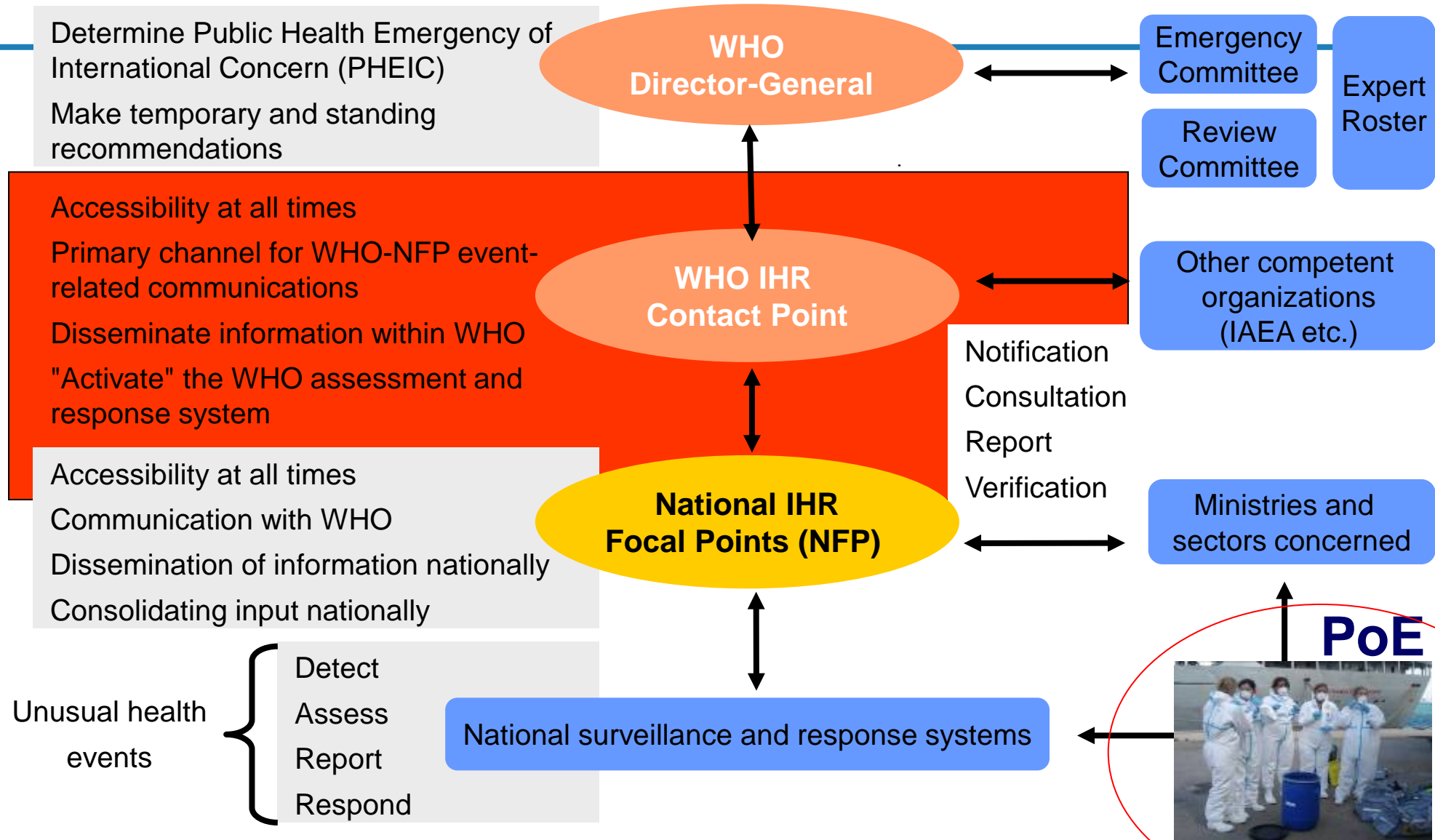
# IHR Emergency Committee

# What is the IHR Emergency Committee?

The Emergency Committee is made up of international experts to provide technical advice to the WHO Director-General in the context of a “public health emergency of international concern” (PHEIC). It provides its views on:

- whether the event constitutes a public health emergency of international concern;
- the temporary recommendations that should be taken by the country experiencing an emergency of international concern, or by other countries,
- the termination of a public health emergency of international concern.

# Example of IHR Framework



# What is a public health emergency of international concern?

## **Criterion 1: Serious public health impact**

### **Questions to be considered include :**

- Is the number of cases and/or number of deaths for this type of event large for the given place, time or population?
- Has the event the potential to have a high public health impact?
- Is external assistance needed to detect, investigate, respond to or control the current event, or prevent new cases? (This includes inadequate human, financial, material or technical resources).

## **Criterion 2: Unusual or unexpected nature of the event:**

### **Questions to be considered include**

- Is the event unusual, such as involving unusual aspects or features of an event which may be of special public health concern or cause for alarm?
- Is the event unexpected from a public health perspective?

### **Criterion 3: Significant risk of international spread of disease**

#### **Questions to be considered include:**

- Is there evidence of an epidemiological link to similar events in other States?
- Is there any factor that should alert WHO to the potential for cross border movement of the agent, vehicle or host?

### **Criterion 4: Significant risk of international trade or travel restrictions**

#### **Questions to be considered include:**

- Have similar events in the past resulted in international restrictions?
- Is the source suspected or known to be a food product, water or any other goods potentially contaminated and that are imported/exported internationally?
- Is the event associated with an international gathering or areas of intense international tourism?
- Are there requests for information by foreign officials or international media?

Fact: The Ebola virus causes an acute, serious illness which is often fatal if untreated. Ebola virus disease (EVD) first appeared in 1976 in 2 simultaneous outbreaks, one in what is now, Nzara, South Sudan, and the other in Yambuku, Democratic Republic of Congo. The latter occurred in a village near the Ebola River, from which the disease takes its name.

The current outbreak in West Africa, (first cases notified in March 2014), is the largest and most complex Ebola outbreak since the Ebola virus was first discovered in 1976. There have been more cases and deaths in this outbreak than all others combined. It has also spread between countries starting in Guinea then spreading across land borders to Sierra Leone and Liberia, by air (1 traveller) to Nigeria and USA (1 traveller), and by land to Senegal (1 traveller) and Mali (2 travellers).

# Who are the members of the Emergency Committee?

- IHR Expert Roster composed of international experts in such fields as disease control, virology, vaccine development or infectious disease epidemiology
- At least one member of the Emergency Committee should be an expert nominated by a State Party within whose territory the event arises, and such States Parties are invited to present their views to the Emergency Committee.
- The Director-General may also appoint one or more technical experts to advise the Committee, on his or her own initiative or at the request of the Committee.

Geographical representation, diverse knowledge, practical experience and approaches. Gender balance

### Alert, response, and capacity building under the International Health Regulations (IHR)

Strengthening health security by implementing the IHR

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A global system for alert and response

### IHR Emergency Committee concerning Influenza Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

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Emergency committee members  
See the full list of Members of, and Advisers to, the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee concerning Influenza Pandemic

Related links

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### Strengthening health security by implementing the International Health Regulations (2005)

Strengthening health security by implementing the IHR

### IHR Emergency Committee concerning Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus

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### Strengthening health security by implementing the International Health Regulations (2005)

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### IHR Emergency Committee concerning ongoing events and context involving transmission and international spread of poliovirus

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#### Emergency committee members and advisers

See the full list of Members of, and Advisers to, the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee concerning ongoing events and context involving transmission and international spread of poliovirus

#### Related links

- Frequently asked questions on IHR Emergency Committee pdf, 243kb
- More on polio

#### WHO statements on Poliovirus

Statement on the Seventh IHR Emergency Committee meeting regarding the international spread of poliovirus  
26 November 2015

Statement on the 6th IHR Emergency Committee meeting regarding the international spread of wild poliovirus  
17 August 2015

Statement on the 5th IHR Emergency Committee meeting regarding the international spread of wild poliovirus  
5 May 2015

Statement on the 4th IHR Emergency Committee meeting regarding the international spread of wild poliovirus  
27 February 2015

WHO statement on the third meeting of the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee regarding the international spread of wild poliovirus  
14 November 2014

WHO statement on the second meeting of the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee concerning the international spread of wild poliovirus  
3 August 2014

WHO statement on the meeting of the IHR Emergency Committee concerning the international spread of wild poliovirus  
5 May 2014

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### Strengthening health security by implementing the International Health Regulations (2005)

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### IHR Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations

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#### Emergency committee members and advisers

List of Members of, and Advisers to, the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations

Biographies of the Members of, and Advisers to, the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations

WHO statement on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations

WHO statement on the first meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR 2005) Emergency Committee on Zika virus and observed increase in neurological disorders and neonatal malformations

# H1N1, MERS, Polio, Ebola, Zika



# World Health Organization





**PUBLIC HEALTH**



**Baggage Claim  
Terminal**



**Thank you**

شكرا

**Merci**

**Gracias**

谢谢

**спасибо**

**Obrigado**

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