

Joint Action Plan
among
the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan,
the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs of
the Republic of Korea
and the Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China
on Preparedness and Response
against Pandemic Influenza

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China (here after referred to as "the Participants"),

Having conducted the Joint Table-top Exercise for Pandemic Influenza Preparedness on October 16 and 17, 2008 in Seoul, Korea, following the Memorandum of Cooperation signed at the first Tripartite Health Ministers' Meeting on April 8, 2007;

Reaffirming the need for joint efforts by the three countries for pandemic influenza preparedness and the importance of international cooperation to minimize damage to the public health and the socio-economic consequences from a possible outbreak of pandemic influenza,

Have reached the following Joint Action Plan:

1. Focal points

1-1. The Participants designate the following organizations as channels for information sharing and will utilize them as focal points regarding pandemic influenza both in ordinary times and in the case of an outbreak:

- Japan: Division of Tuberculosis and Infectious Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare;
- Korea: Infectious Disease Management Team, Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention / Division of International Cooperation, Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs;
- China: Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Health.

1-2. The Participants will establish a teleconference network and use other methods such as email to facilitate information sharing.

1-3. The Participants will make every effort to further strengthen collaborative relationships and information sharing with relevant official organizations in order to

make sure that their nationals residing in the other two countries have an access to reliable information in the case of a pandemic.

2. Information sharing

2-1. Each Participant will provide to the other Participants as much information as it has on any confirmed case of human influenza caused by a new subtype that occurs in a third country.

2-2. If pandemic influenza breaks out in one of the three countries, the originating country will provide the following information to the other two countries at the same time or promptly after reporting to the World Health Organization as possible:

- epidemiological information on the risk factors associated with the outbreak and spread of influenza, such as the area and timing of the outbreak and patients' health information;
- information on the nature of the disease, such as clinical characteristics, treatment results and fatalities;
- relevant laboratory information;
- public health measures planned and taken to deal with the event.

3. Risk communication

The Participants will take the following measures to effectively provide accurate information to the public in the case of an outbreak of pandemic influenza:

- provide reliable information to the people of the three countries by posting developments of the outbreak and response measures taken, on the websites of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare / National Institute of Infectious Disease of Japan, Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Center of Disease Prevention and Control of China;
- announce a Joint Statement under the names of the Health Ministers of the Participants for collective response to any rumors regarding the three countries and close cooperation among three countries.

4. Impartial intervention for rapid containment

The Participants will work together to ensure the following measures will be implemented without regarding to nationality:

- the provision of impartial preventive measures including quarantine and isolation for rapid containment.

5. Expansion of Cooperation

The Participants will strive to develop prevention and response measures against pandemic influenza by holding regular events such as:

- carrying out joint exercises for pandemic influenza preparedness by rotation and occasionally after negotiations among the three countries;
- conducting international joint table-top exercises including exercises supported by the World Health Organization, seminars and symposia by inviting other Asian countries to expand the scope of cooperation.

This Joint Action Plan will be carried out in accordance with the respective laws and regulations of the Participants and subject to the availability of personnel, resources and funds of the Participants.

Any dispute between the Participants that may arise from the interpretation or implementation of this Joint Action Plan will be settled amicably by consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

This Joint Action Plan will come into effect on the date of signature by the Participants and remain in effect for five (5) years.

This Joint Action Plan may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Participants.

Signed in triplicate in Beijing, on this second day of November, 2008, in the English language.

FOR THE MINISTRY
OF HEALTH,
LABOUR AND
WELFARE OF JAPAN



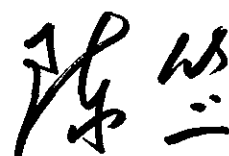
Yoichi Masuzoe
Minister of Health,
Labor and Welfare

FOR THE
MINISTRY FOR
HEALTH,
WELFARE AND
FAMILY AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA



Jae-Hee Jeon
Minister of Health,
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FOR THE MINISTRY
OF HEALTH OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA



Chen Zhu
Minister of Health