

Statement of I.R. Iran on:
Enhancement of laboratory biosafety (resolution WHA58.29 (2005))

The Islamic Republic of Iran has taken the following actions in line with the recommendations outlined in the global action plan for establishing biosafety and biosecurity requirements:

1. Development of guidelines related to biosafety and biosecurity management in laboratories, with a focus on risk management and laboratory waste management.
2. Collaboration with domestic manufacturer to produce standard containers for the transportation of infectious samples (Triple Packaging) as well as personal protective equipment and clothing.
3. Conducting risk assessment and management workshops for central reference laboratories, based on the revised 2020 laboratory biosafety guidelines, with the aid of exercise scenarios and conducting drills.

Considering the country's climatic conditions and natural hazards such as floods and earthquakes, as well as extensive traffic between Iran and neighboring countries so the potential for the spread of epidemic-prone diseases (such as CCHF as well as emerging or re-emerging diseases), support from WHO is essential to provide:

1. High-level biosafety facilities to strengthen the performance of national reference laboratories working with high-risk microorganisms
2. Portable laboratory equipment for conducting tests related to dangerous infectious diseases, especially for hospital Point-of-Care Testing (POCT) laboratories.
3. Access to mobile laboratories to quickly address potential outbreaks, which is a critical tool for rapid response to public health emergencies.