

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NATIONAL IHR FOCAL POINTS (NFPS) N.I.H ISLAMABAD

A National IHR Focal Point (NFP) is a national center, designated by Ministry of National Health services and Coordination ,Government of Pakistan a which is accessible at all times (7/24/365) for communications with WHO IHR Contact Points. NFP will be office rather than individuals. It will work closely with WHO Representatives. Government will consider the legal and administrative authorities required by NFP in order to carry out its functions. NFP will need clearly established links and coordination mechanisms with existing national health emergency committees and mechanisms, within or outside the health sector.

While the great majority of the work of the NFP will relate to risks and outbreaks of communicable disease. NFP will also carry out the activities below in respect of events arising from non-communicable disease and Health events, such as chemical or radiological, where such events meet the criteria set out in the IHR Regulations.

The Ministry of National Health Services and Regulations (NHSR) has designated National Institute of health Islamabad (N.I.H) Focal point for IHR 2005, accordingly the following functions are derived directly from the IHR (2005) and can be considered mandatory components of terms of reference for National IHR Focal Point i.e. N.I.H

- 1) The NFP shall remain accessible at all times for communications with WHO IHR Contact Point (via e-mail, telephone and/or fax)

- 2) On behalf of the Government sending to WHO IHR Contact Points urgent communications arising from IHR implementation, in particular under Articles 6-12 of IHR(2005)
 - i) Notification (Article 6): Notifying WHO IHR Contact Points of all events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern within a country's territory in accordance with health measure implemented in response, and, following notification, continuing to give WHO public health information about the notified event
 - ii) Information-sharing during unexpected or unusual public health events (Article 7): Providing WHO IHR Contact Point with all relevant public

health information if there is evidence of an unexpected or unusual public health event within country's territory which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern

- iii) Consultation (Article 8): If government so chooses, keeping WHO advised on events occurring within its territory which do not require notification, and consulting with WHO on appropriate health measures
 - iv) Other reports (Article 9): Responding to WHO requests for consultations and attempts to obtain verification for reports from sources other than notifications or consultations on events occurring within the territory of the country; and informing WHO of receipt of evidence of a public health risk identified outside the country territory that may cause international disease spread, evidenced by imported/exported human cases, or contaminated vectors or products
 - v) Verification (Article 10): Responding to WHO requests for verification of reports from sources other than notifications or consultations of events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern allegedly occurring in the country's territory
 - vi) Provision of information by WHO (Article 11): Serving as focal point for information sent by WHO under Article 11.1, and consulting with WHO as to making information available under this article
 - vii) Determination of a public health emergency of international concern (Article 12): Consulting with the WHO Director-General on determination and termination of a public health emergency of international concern
- 3) Disseminating information to relevant sectors of the administration of the Pakistan, including those responsible for surveillance and reporting, points of entry, public health services, clinics and hospitals and other government departments
- 4) Consolidating input from relevant sectors of the administration including those responsible for surveillance and reporting, points of entry, public health services, clinics and hospitals and other government department