

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**  
**AND**  
**THE KOREA DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION AGENCY**

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ('ECDC') and the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency ('KDCA') and (hereafter referred to individually as 'Organisation' and collectively as 'Organisations');

Agreeing, within their respective mandates, in the joint need to develop information exchange and better mutual understanding between both Organisations;

Desiring to strengthen collaboration between the two Organisations relating to different topics including epidemiological issues and infectious diseases and to support global health security and implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005);

Have reached the following understandings:

**PARAGRAPH 1. GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding ('MoU') is to expand and deepen technical collaboration between ECDC and KDCA on matters of mutual interest in the field of communicable disease control and prevention, with a focus on health security, in particular through efforts at information exchange, better understanding and increased collaboration.

**PARAGRAPH 2. AREAS OF COLLABORATION**

The areas of mutual interest for cooperation under this MoU include, but are not limited to:

- a. Epidemic Intelligence - sharing information rapidly particularly in the event of a public health emergency;
- b. Public health emergency preparedness and response;
- c. Surveillance and control of epidemic-prone diseases, including viral hemorrhagic fevers;
- d. Health risk assessments;
- e. Laboratory capacity-building and enhancement to detect and respond to emerging disease threats of global health importance;
- f. Antimicrobial resistance and Healthcare-Associated infections;
- g. Vaccine-preventable diseases and immunization;
- h. Emerging, Food -and Waterborne and Vector-Borne Diseases, and Zoonotic diseases;
- i. Coronavirus and Influenza and other respiratory infections;
- j. Sexually Transmitted Infections, Blood-Borne Viruses and Tuberculosis;
- k. Public health training.

**PARAGRAPH 3. MODALITIES OF COLLABORATION**

Activities in support of this cooperation may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Exchanging information and best practices relevant to the areas identified in Paragraph 2 (it is understood that all data and information exchanged under the MoU will be anonymised or exchanged at an aggregate level);
- b. Mutual consultation in the event of emerging health threat that may affect or concern the European Union and the Republic of Korea;

- c. Pursuing joint scientific programs and research projects, and publishing findings as appropriate;
- d. Hosting regular consultations to further explore potential areas of bilateral cooperation and to develop work plans for collaborative activities;
- e. Establishing mutually beneficial scientific training opportunities, such as a personnel exchange; and
- f. Other forms of cooperation identified jointly, subject to the availability of resources.

#### **PARAGRAPH 4. COMMUNICATION**

- 1. For each area of cooperation, as mutual interests are identified, each Organisation intends to identify an appropriate entity/service to take the lead in overseeing the practical implementation of relevant activities.
- 2. The Organisations understand that appropriate entities/services of the two Organisations are responsible for coordinating communications with their counterparts.

#### **PARAGRAPH 5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- 1. Each Organisation recalls that it applies its rules on conflict of interests in the pursuit of the activities covered by this MoU.
- 2. KDCA acknowledges the principles of ECDC's Independence Policy for non-staff and shall act in accordance with the policy when interacting with ECDC. KDCA will ensure that declarations of interest are obtained and submitted to ECDC from any experts, country representatives and other stakeholders participating in joint activities and/or acting on behalf of KDCA, where the outcome involves publishing guidelines, recommendations, or any other form of official position on a subject, in order to avoid conflicts of interest.

#### **PARAGRAPH 6. PUBLIC ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS, DATA PROTECTION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

- 1. Organisations recognize that ECDC observes Council Regulation (EC) No. 1049/2001 of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents and Council Regulation (EC) No. 2018/1725 of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. All activities undertaken by ECDC in terms of this MoU fall within the scope of these Regulations, and as such will be treated in accordance with the applicable rules.
- 2. The intellectual property of products resulting from the collaboration is outside the scope of this MoU.

#### **PARAGRAPH 7. GENERAL PROVISION**

- 1. The Organisations intend all collaborative activities under this MoU to be conducted in accordance with the relevant internal procedures of the respective Organisations and applicable laws and regulations.
- 2. The Organisations understand that all activities contemplated under this MoU are subject to the availability of personnel, resources, and appropriated funds.
- 3. The Organisations intend to develop specific implementation steps through joint consultations based on mutual respect and shared priorities following the signature of this MoU. More specific

and detailed implementation arrangements may follow this MoU, as appropriate, based on mutual interest.

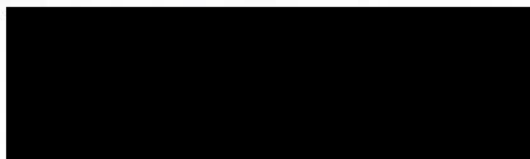
4. Nothing in this MoU creates any legally binding obligations.
5. The collaboration starts upon date of signature of the MoU and is intended to continue thereafter unless this arrangement is discontinued by either Organisation. The MoU may be varied at any stage with the agreement of both Organisations.

#### **PARAGRAPH 8. RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES**

The Organisations intend to resolve any differences that may arise from the interpretation or implementation of this MoU through mutual consultations and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

Signed in duplicate in the English and Korean languages, in Osong, Republic of Korea and Solna, Sweden (virtually), on 13 of December 2021.

For the European Centre for Disease  
Prevention and Control



Dr. Andrea Ammon

Director

European Centre for Disease Prevention  
and Control

For the Korea Disease Control and Prevention  
Agency of the Republic of Korea



Mr. Heon Joo Kim

Vice Commissioner

Korea Disease Control and  
Prevention Agency