



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Public health
Director

Luxembourg, June 2014

John F. Ryan is Acting Director of the Commission Public Health directorate since March 2012. He is also the current Head of Unit responsible for health threats (communicable diseases, health security and bioterrorism) within the European Commission department for public health and consumer protection. This includes responsibility for issues such as surveillance of communicable diseases, strategies for prevention, vaccination, avian, pandemic and seasonal flu, preparedness exercises, EU and international cooperation on health security (EU Health Security Committee, Global Health Security Initiative).

He was previously responsible in the same department for the health information programme, the cancer programme, the pollution related disease programme, the drugs prevention programme, the health monitoring programme, the health promotion programme, the rare diseases programme and the injury prevention programme.

He was a Commission representative on the Board of the EU Lisbon Drugs Agency, and is currently the Commission representative on the Board of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

He also had the charge of dealing with tobacco control issues including product regulation directives, tobacco advertising, and the WHO international treaty negotiations for a tobacco convention.

He has previously worked in other European Commission departments dealing with the completion of the internal market, and on international trade negotiations. He is also an official of the Irish civil service (on leave).