

Czech Republic

- Has the PIP Framework helped better prepare Member States for a pandemic? How could this capacity be improved?
 - The PIP Framework has integrated Member States in common interests for the collective action in pandemic preparedness. Despite initial disagreement among some Member States how to handle this issue, the final decision was reached and fundamental definitions were developed. In our opinion the most important was the determination of fixed rules for the PIP Framework and establishing of rules for potential pandemic materials – SMTA1 and SMTA2.
- What are the key challenges in the implementation of the PIP Framework? What are possible ways to overcome these challenges?
 - Intellectual property of results of molecular and biological expertise of viruses with pandemic potential is a very important topic, which should remain open to the further discussion. Should the PIP Framework be functional for the future, the availability of such expertise and results can not be restricted. Of course, clear rules have to be followed.
- Are the principles underpinning the PIP Framework, e.g. transparency, fairness, equity, efficiency, and virus sharing and benefit sharing on an equal footing, being implemented?
 - Yes, we believe that these principles are respected. Nevertheless, we stress that the overall support provided even to the developed laboratories and the GISN in general is of key importance.
- How should the PIP Framework ensure it remains relevant and effective?
 - Continuous support provided to the existing and functional net of reference laboratories. This net is a backbone of the entire surveillance. The insufficient efficiency of this net automatically influences the goals of the PIP Framework.
- Have there been any collateral benefits (i.e. benefits beyond the initial intent) arising from implementation of the PIP Framework? If so what are these benefits?
 - Yes: support of influenza surveillance, provision of external blind samples, providing diagnostics during the pandemic threat (2009), supplying strains of avian influenza (e.g. A/H7), support for sending influenza strains.
- What views do Member States have on using the PIP Framework as a model for sharing of other pathogens?
 - We believe that PIP Framework is a long-established mechanism, which could be used to address also different aspects of the global surveillance as well as other pathogens. We could build on proven mechanisms. It is advisable to take into account the fact, that the basic PIP Framework was formed for several years; therefore it is useful to use these experiences as much as possible.
- How well is the work of the PIP Framework communicated to Member States?
 - Member states reached all information needed via web pages. Sometimes, the information is published with a certain delay.
- How do Member States view their interaction with the PIP Framework Secretariat? How could this interaction be strengthened?
 - Communication with WHO Secretariat as well as PIP Framework Secretariat is very good and we have no objections to it.