

PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST FOR APEC



Planning actions

Description

Essential

Desirable

Economy-specific pandemic response plan

Contains an overview of the economy's health system capacity to manage the pandemic and core capacities to manage risks to health and food security; identifies the main implementing authority and supporting agencies/sectors, and defines implementing processes and procedures during a disease outbreak



Coordination mechanism

Establishes a dedicated committee in-charge of managing pandemics; employs a multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach with active involvement of government authorities, health practitioners, scientists, researchers, private organizations and the local community



Communication process

Follows a communication flowchart with timeline, from verification of an outbreak to political decision-making, communication to the general public and the measures and period of implementation



Public health resources

Government commitment to allocate resources to address any pandemic and associated costs; manpower complement that could be readily deployed to investigate, assess and provide essential services at every stage of the pandemic



Legal and ethical issues

Establishes legal and ethics committee to address issues related to enforcement of containment measures and travel restrictions, disclosure of personal health and travel data, etc.



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Laboratory protocols

Institutes biosafety protocols and provides capacity building for staff; establishes a laboratory data management system



Surveillance

Establishes timely and systematic information exchange between animal and human health surveillance units; identifies a trigger criteria to investigate unusual or non-seasonal infections



Investigation

Forms an investigation body to identify cases, source of infection, symptoms and characteristics, and clinical impact; ensures that investigation personnel have proper training and equipment; establishes protocols on infection prevention and control



Medical provisions for members of pandemic-related committees

Maintains a supply of anti-viral drugs, vaccines, personal protective equipment, facemasks, and other medical supplies to give to committee members, particularly the investigation body, at the onset of the outbreak



Baseline data on pandemic

Manages and maintains a baseline data on pandemics, including different phases and characteristics and rate of infection vis-à-vis health system capacity; measures impact of pandemic on health and economic systems, school and labor participation, etc.



**Investigating
and monitoring
potential outbreak**

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Health service business continuity plan

Specifies public and private referral hospitals; establishes communication and information exchange system; identifies capacity of facilities and number of health personnel as well as supplies of medical goods and equipment; ensures continuation of health services amid a pandemic



Management of healthcare staff

Provides appropriate and updated training to frontliners to be able to identify, manage and isolate suspected cases; develops coordination procedures that allow transfer of healthcare staff to overwhelmed hospitals



Control spread of infection in healthcare settings

Allocates isolation and critical care units in both public and private hospitals



Sustaining health services

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Preventing further waves of outbreak

Extension of containment measures

Implements counter-measures that support households and businesses



Vaccination policy

Institutes a vaccination policy, informed by data and stakeholder consultations to develop a vaccination program that ensures wider access to vaccines



Pandemic research and development, monitoring and evaluation program

Continuous research and monitoring of communicable diseases; establishing at least one laboratory testing site dedicated to the development of testing kits, therapeutics and vaccines



Role of community

Strengthens community prevention and mitigation through public service messages on improving personal hygiene, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, and coordinating with community-level representatives to report and/or gain information on the onset of possible infections



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Collaboration of all sectors

Develops recovery plans and support systems; requires collaborative efforts from all levels of governments, all businesses across different industries, and the general public



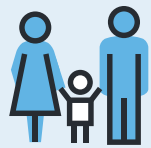
Support to affected sectors and vulnerable groups

Provides immediate and substantial support to affected sectors and vulnerable groups for a specified period



Regular revision of pandemic preparedness plan

Defines a time period to regularly review and refine plans, incorporating lessons from recent pandemics and best responses; updates data on health system's capacity



Preparing for recovery