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“Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Health” was signed between the Republic of Turkey and Republic of Uzbekistan

Şavkat Mirziyoyev, President of Uzbekistan visited Turkey on 25-27 October 2017.

Within this framework, “Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Health” was signed by Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, and Abdulaziz Kamilov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan, in the presence of their President on 25 October 2017.

The Memorandum of Understanding, based on the Agreement of 1997, provides for cooperation in the fields of fight against non-communicable diseases and the protection of environmental health, training and promotion of a healthy lifestyle, emergency health services and disaster management, hematology and organ - tissue transplantation, medicines and medical devices, strengthening and improving of the health system, cooperation with aim of improving medical tourism, organization of joint health weeks, public-private partnership model on health related investments.
Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health, Visited Somalia

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health, and a delegation of 33 personnel (the delegation consisted of 26 additional healthcare staff, including 2 practitioners and 14 specialist doctors and 12 allied healthcare staff) went to Mogadishu-Somali on 15-17 October 2017 upon instruction of the President of the Republic of Turkey, due to the terrorist attack that took place in Mogadishu on 14 October 2017.

In Mogadishu, the Turkish Minister had a meeting with Hassan Ali Kheire, Prime Minister of Somali, and Fawziya Nur, Minister of Health of Somali, and expressed his deep sorrow for the terrorist attack and then visited the injured Recep Tayyip Erdoğan Training and Research Hospital.

Some of the healthcare staff in the Turkish delegation stayed at Recep Tayyip Erdoğan Training and Research Hospital to provide treatment for the injured and 35 injured people were transferred to Ankara on the same military plane for treatment in Turkey.

22 of the injured were treated at Polatlı State Hospital, 11 at Numune Training and Research Hospital and 2 at Gülhane Training and Research Hospital.
Dr. Hanan Mohammed Al Kuwari, Minister of Health of Qatar, visited Turkey

Dr. Hanan Mohammed Al Kuwari, Minister of Health of Qatar, and the accompanying delegation visited Turkey between 30 October 2017 and 2 November 2017 in order to address the bilateral cooperation issues and made official contacts.

The guest Minister had a bilateral meeting with Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, on 31 October 2017 and following the meeting, a press meeting was held with the participation of both Ministers and delegations.

During their visit, the delegation visited General Directorate of Emergency Health Services and SAKOM, Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency and General Directorate of Health Services. Furthermore, they visited Ankara Atatürk Training and Research Hospital and Bilkent City Hospital as well as some private health facilities.
Health-related developments between two countries and the areas that TRNC can benefit from the experience and knowledge of Turkey for the structural changes they plan to implement were discussed during the meeting.

Dr. Faiz Sucuoğlu, Minister of Health of TRNC (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus) Visited Turkey

Dr. Faiz Sucuoğlu, Minister of Health of TRNC, Undersecretary of Ministry of Health and the accompanying delegation visited Health Minister Dr. Ahmet Demircan on Thursday, 19 October 2017.

At the meeting, the present and potential cooperation areas between two countries were discussed.

Zaur Aliyev, President of Social Security Institution of Azerbaijan, Visited H.E. Minister

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of Turkey, received the delegation consisting of Zaur Aliyev, President of Compulsory Health Insurance Institution, and Niyazi Novruzov, Minister of Health of Nakhchivan, who were in Turkey for a congress organized by Azerbaijani Physicians Association, at his office on 9 October 2017.

At the meeting, the present and potential cooperation areas between two countries were discussed.
Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, received the delegation of Chile Parliament

On 9 October 2017 Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, held a meeting with Fernando Meza Moncada, Chair of AND Parliament, and Romilio Guillermo Gutierrez Pino, Deputy Chair of AND Parliament, who visited Turkey upon invitation of İsmail Kahraman, Chair of Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Jose Manuel Silva, Ambassador of Chile in Ankara, and Orhan Kırcalı, MP, Chair of Chile Friendship Group, also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health, expressed his pleasure to see the delegation of AND Parliament consisting of Chile, Colombia, Bolivia and Ecuador representatives in Turkey and he continued his words by mentioning good relations between two countries and his belief in further development of the mutual relations and thanked to Romilio Guillermo Gutierrez Pino, Deputy Chair of AND Parliament, for his efforts in the General Assembly of 20 October 2016 to declare null and void the decision taken in Montevideo Meeting on 17 September 2016.

Mr. Minister underlined that efforts of Mr. Gutierrez will always be remembered by the Turkish nation and that Turkey is always ready for collaboration and sharing our health-related experiences with the AND states and friendly state Chile. On the other hand, Fernando Meza Moncada, Chair of AND Parliament, stated that they were received with love, attention and care during their short stay in Turkey, friendly relations and respect are everlasting between Turkey and Chile and they also see love and respect during this visit too and that cooperation with Turkey will continue in coming periods as well and they are ready for cooperation, especially for exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of health, and adoption of ungrounded Armenian claims in the AND Parliament was an unfortunate accident, which was corrected following the efforts of Romilio Guillermo Gutierrez Pino, Deputy Chair of AND Parliament.
Communicable Diseases and Health Security Division of WHO Regional Office for Europe Paid a Visit

Dr. Nedret Emiroğlu, Director of Communicable Diseases and Health Security Division of WHO Regional Office for Europe visited the Ministry of Health on 11-12 October 2017. She visited Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, in his office. They made an evaluation about relations between Turkey and WHO, healthcare services provided to the Syrian refugees, WHO Geographically Dispersed Office (GDO), Biennial Cooperation Agreement (BCA 2018-2019), current situation of the Strategic Plan of the Turkish Ministry and Country Cooperation Strategy Document. After that, she made a meeting with Deputy General Directors of Public Health and they exchanged opinions on SIHHAT project, relation between health and environment, Disabled Persons and Health Security Projects, vaccinations and AMR. On 12 October 2017, they had a meeting with the General Director of EU and Foreign Affairs and General Director of Emergency Health Services and exchanged information on GDO, BCA, SSC and WHO Emergency Reform.

Dr. Şuayip Birinci, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, received Neil Krell, Second Clerk and Undersecretary of Trade of Canada Embassy

Dr. Şuayip Birinci, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, received Neil Krell, Second Clerk and Undersecretary of Trade of Canada Embassy, on 10 October 2017. During the meeting, how Canadian companies could make contributions to PPP hospital projects were discussed.

Ambassador of Republic of Burundi Visited the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Joel Nkurabagaya, Ambassador of Republic of Burundi, and Esperance Uwimana, Undersecretary of the Embassy, held a meeting with Dr. Öner Güner, former General Director of EU and Foreign Affairs, on 12 October 2017. During the meeting, they talked about execution of an agreement for development of cooperation in the field of health, treatment of the Burundi patients in Turkey under medical tourism or free of charge and invitation of Dr. Josiane Nijimbere, Minister of Health of Burundi, for the Health Alumni Congress of the following year.
Public Health Director of Ministry of Health of Somali visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Dr. Abdurrahim Ibrahim, Public Health Director of Ministry of Health of Somali visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 18 October 2017. During the meeting, cooperation possibilities were discussed in the fields of establishment of a blood bank in Somali, capacity development for personnel and physical infrastructure, personnel training for emergency health services command center, provision of necessary equipment and devices and establishment of early warning system.

Health Attaché of Niger Embassy in Ankara visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Mohamed Goumur, Health Attaché of Niger Embassy in Ankara visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs, in order to talk about the patients to be treated in Turkey under bilateral agreement. During the meeting, patient record system training, preference of Istanbul hospitals for the Nigerian patients and patient visits were discussed.

Meeting with Prof. Eddy Maloka, CEO of African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

Prof. Eddy Maloka, CEO of African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), and Itumeleng Dlamini, CEO Consultant of Partnership and Corporate Governance, visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and held a meeting with the former Director General Dr. Öner Güner. During the meeting, potential cooperation areas between Turkey and African countries were discussed and CEO Prof. Eddy Maloka was provided information on 15-year experience of Turkey in the field of Health Transformation Program. Moreover, it was stated that if desired, an expert team from APRM may organize a working visit to Turkey regarding health issues.
4th Turkish Medical World Council

The 4th Turkish Medical World Council was organized by Health Institutes Presidency of Turkey (TÜSEB) and former General Director of EU and Foreign Affairs Dr. Öner Güner and an accompanying delegation attended the council. Delegation of the General Directorate took part in the panel of health diplomacy and provided information about the works of the Ministry in the field of health diplomacy.

5th Turkey-Uzbekistan Joint Health Week

The 5th Uzbekistan Health Week was organized in Termiz, Uzbekistan between 28 September and 8 October 2017 in cooperation with TIKA. The delegation consisted of Plastic Surgery and Anesthesia and Reanimation specialists accompanied by the officials from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs. They performed 141 successful operations, 691 consultations and short-term training programs for 138 Uzbek healthcare staff to develop their professional capacity.

Visit of Moldova Komrat Regional Hospital

A technical delegation from General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and General Directorate of Public Hospitals visited Moldova on 1-6 October 2017 in order to inspect the equipment and two-floor annex building of Moldova Gökoğuzüyeri Komrat Regional Hospital performed by TIKA. During the visit, project-related recommendations were shared with Moldova and Gökoğuz Health Ministers and TIKA officials. Moreover, the delegation held a meeting with Moldovan Health Minister Stela Grigoras and visited state hospital located in Cador Lunga and Public Health Agency of the Moldovan Ministry of Health. Lastly, TIKA projects in Kişinev and Gökoğuzüyeri were examined.
Foreign Healthcare Professionals with Ongoing Training in Turkey

Training programs of the foreign healthcare staff who are receiving training as observers in the affiliated training and research hospitals of the Ministry are ongoing under bilateral agreements. Within the framework of such programs, a total of 241 foreign healthcare staff received training as of 31 October 2017.

Training of 13 foreign healthcare staff is ongoing at the Research and Training Hospitals affiliated to the Ministry of Health.

64th Meeting of WHO East Mediterranean Regional Committee

The 64th Meeting of WHO East Mediterranean Regional Committee was held on 9-12 October 2017 in Islamabad-Pakistan with the participation of 21 member states and health problems of the region were discussed.

Turkey was invited as an observer and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended this meeting.

Evaluation Meeting on Patients Treated Free of Charge under Bilateral Agreement and Additional Article 14 of the Law no 3359

A meeting was held with the General Directorate of Public Hospitals regarding treatment and other processes of the patients treated in Turkey free of charge under bilateral agreements and additional article 14 of the law no 3359.

During the meeting, planned activities and current problems were discussed with the ministries of health of the relevant countries, embassies in Turkey, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 112 Command Centers and hospitals.

A delegation from the Republic of Korea Visited the Ministry

On 25 October 2017, a delegation from the Republic of Korea was provided one-day briefing on health sector of Turkey, condition of state hospitals, operation of private hospitals and cooperation plan with the other countries.

Project Closure Meeting

“Social Politics Summit”, which is a platform for presenting outputs of the “Corporate Capacity Development Process of the Ministry of Family and Social Politics in the field of Social Inclusion Policies” process and making the closure meeting, was held on 4 October 2017 at J.W.Marriott Hotel. General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended this meeting as well.

Preparations for the 4th Mixed Economy Meeting of Turkey-Montenegro

The 4th Mixed Economy Meeting of Turkey-Montenegro will be held in Ankara on 16-17 November 2017. To this aim, Ministry of Health attended the preparatory meeting held at the Ministry of Economics on 31 October 2017.

Treatment of Foreign Patients in Turkey

As per "Article 14 of the Basic Law on Health Services no 3359" 142 patients and as per Bilateral Agreements and Protocols 626 patients - 768 foreign patients in total - were treated in Turkey as of 31 October 2017.
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