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6th Islamic Conference of Health Ministers
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President of the Republic of Djibouti, Ismail Omar Guelleh, visited Turkey

President of the Republic of Djibouti, Ismail Omar Guelleh, paid an official visit to Turkey on 18-20 December 2017 upon invitation of the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. “Grant Agreement between Government of the Republic of Turkey and Government of the Republic of Djibouti in the field of Health” was signed by Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, and Djama Elmi Okieh, Minister of Health of Djibouti, on 19 December 2017 in the presence of the Presidents of both countries. Dr. Ahmet Demircan also held a bilateral meeting with his Djiboutian counterpart at the Presidential Complex.

Upon execution of this Agreement, 5 ambulances were granted to the Republic of Djibouti as agreed during the bilateral meeting of the two Ministers on the occasion of the Turkey visit of the Djiboutian Minister Djama Elmi Okieh on 13-19 March 2017.
Prime Minister of Turkey, Binali Yıldırım, visited Saudi Arabia

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, accompanied official Saudi Arabia visit of Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım on 27 December 2017. The Turkish Prime Minister held a meeting with King of Saudi Arabia Selman bin Abdülaziz. Then, delegations of both sides held meetings. Hakan Çavuşoğlu, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, Jülide Sarıeroğlu, Minister of Labor and Social Security, Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health, Mustafa Elitaş, Group Deputy Chairman of AK Party and Mahir Ünal and Öznur Çalık, Vice Chairmen of AK Party.
6th Islamic Conference of Health Ministers

The 6th Islamic Conference of Health Ministers was organized in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on 6-7 December 2017. During the 2-day Conference, health ministers of 56 members and high-level directors held meetings under the theme of “Health in All Policies”.

The opening session was chaired by Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, and such important issues as Strategic Health Program of Action 2014-2023, Health Problems of Immigrants and Displaced People in Muslim World and Access to Vaccination in OIC countries were discussed throughout the sessions.

The Turkish Minister opened the Conference as the Chair of the Standing Committee on Health and held bilateral meetings with health ministers of many countries about health problems of Islamic world and bilateral cooperation processes in the field of health. On the other hand, the current developments in the Turkish health sector were shared with the member states at the health expo organized along with the Conference.

On the occasion of this Conference, the Health Minister Dr. Ahmet Demircan held meetings with the Health Ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kyrgyzstan, Yemen, Palestine and Azerbaijan and General Secretary of OIC.
Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, attended the National Day of Qatar

On the occasion of the 139th anniversary of the independence of Qatar, a reception was organized and hosted by Salim Mübarek Al Şafi, Ambassador of Qatar in Ankara. Besides Mehmet Şimşek, Deputy Prime Minister, Lütfi Elvan, Minister of Development, Nihat Zeybekçi, Minister of Economics and Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health, many diplomatic and military missions attended the reception.

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, received Ambassador of Mongolia in Ankara

Dr. Ahmet Demircan, Minister of Health of the Republic of Turkey, received Bold Ravdan, Ambassador of Mongolia, and Munkhsukh Murun, Third Secretary of the Embassy, on 21 December 2017. During the meeting, health cooperation areas of the coming periods and free treatment of 3 Mongolian patients in Turkey were discussed.
Ahmet Baha Öğütken, Deputy Minister of Health, received Abzal Saparbekuly, Ambassador of Kazakhstan in Ankara on 01 December 2017. During the meeting, PPP model projects that can be built in Kazakhstan were discussed.

Ahmet Baha Öğütken, Deputy Minister of Health, received Murat Ahmet Yörük, Ambassador of Turkey in Tirana on 01 December 2017. During the meeting, health-related cooperation areas were discussed with the newly appointed Ambassador.
Grant Agreement was signed with the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Decree Law of the Cabinet dated 22 February 2017 and no 721 granted Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş the right to conclude grant agreement with the countries indicated in the annex of the decree law in the field of health. Based on this authority, the Grant Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and Government of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the field of Health was signed on 6 December 2017 in Ankara by Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, and Fazıl Can Korkut, Ambassador of TRNC in Ankara. Once the agreement enters into force, Turkey will grant 400 boxes of Tab. Isoniasid 300mg 50’s needed by TRNC.

BCG Vaccine Grant Agreement was signed with Somalia

Within the framework of the authority to sign grant agreements based on the Decree Law of 2017/9847, Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş signed the Grant Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia on 27 December 2017 in Ankara. On Somali side, the agreement was signed by Jama Abdullahi Mohamed, Ambassador of Somalia in Ankara. Through this agreement, 150 thousands doses of BCG vaccine will be granted to Somalia.
Delegation of the Turkish Ministry of Health visited Turkey-Palestine Friendship Hospital

A 5-person delegation consisting of Dr. Selami Kılıç, Director General of the EU and Foreign Affairs, and officials from the General Directorate of Public Hospitals visited Palestine on 17-21 December 2017 in order to conduct technical examinations on the Turkey-Palestine Friendship Hospital which is constructed by TIKA in Gaza and start to provide services next year and exchange opinions with the Palestinian authorities. During the visit, a meeting was organized with the authorities of TIKA Coordination Office in Gaza.
Ambassador of Djibouti visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Aden Houssein Abdillahi, Ambassador of Djibouti, visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 25 December 2017 in order to discuss the grant of ambulances, treatment of patients free of charge and organization of health week in Djibouti, and to this aim, held a meeting with Director-General Dr. Selami Kılıç.

Bwalya Nondo, Undersecretary of Embassy of Zambia, visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Bwalya Nondo, Undersecretary of Embassy of Zambia, visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on 26 December 2017 in order to exchange opinions on Turkey visit of Health Minister of Zambia and the Memorandum of Understanding agreed to be signed between two countries, and to this aim, held a meeting with Director-General Dr. Selami Kılıç.

Delegation of the Turkish Ministry of Health visited Bangladesh

4-person delegation from Ministry of EU and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Emergency Health Services, General Directorate of Public Hospitals and General Directorate of Public Health went to Bangladesh in order to open the field hospital which will be established in Cox Bazar for Rohingya Muslims and deal with issuance of the work permits of the Turkish staff. The delegation held discussions at the Embassy of Turkey in Dakka and then went to Cox Bazar to talk with the Ministry of Migration and Disaster. The delegation made examinations in Upazilla Health Complex and hospitals in Cox Bazar, Ukhiya and made research for intensive care patients if required. The delegation also met with the officials of TIKA, Red Crescent and AFAD and attended, via phone, the meeting of Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health and Embassy of Dakka on 27 December 2017 in order to decide the issues of hospital establishment, medicine and material transfer and personnel assignment. Accordingly, it was agreed with the Bangladesh Ministry of Health to open and operate a 50-bed hospital in camp area of Ukhiya district and it was further agreed to send, via Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the specialization certificates and CVs of the Turkish staff as well as the relevant medicines, medical supplies and devices at least 10 days before in English.

Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Health
General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs
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 312 foreign healthcare staff received training as of 31 December 2017.

Training of 2 foreign healthcare staff is ongoing at the Research and Training Hospitals affiliated to the Ministry of Health.

Chair of WHO Turkey Office visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Dr. Pavel Ursu, Chair of WHO Turkey Office, visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and met with Director-General Dr. Selami Kilic on 13 December 2017 in order to provide information on “Country Cooperation Strategy” and discuss the other cooperation areas.

Preparations for Turkey Alumni Ankara Business World Meetings Health Sector Conference

A meeting was organized at Ankara Chamber of Commerce on 7 December 2017 with the participation of organization board of “Turkey Alumni Ankara Business World Meetings Health Sector Conference” which will be held in Ankara on 1-3 March 2018 in cooperation with Ankara Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Industry and with the support of the Ministry of Health. Ferhat Akyuz, Branch Manager of Foreign Relations of Ankara Chamber of Commerce, Necip Ozkan, Conference Coordinator, representatives of the organization firm and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting.

Current participation demands were evaluated, division of labor was made and organizational progress was discussed during the meeting. It was decided to get appointment from the heads of the health departments at state universities, activate the website immediately for which domain name was received, meet with Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, receive participation recommendations from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and TIKA and apply to Ministry of Economics and Prime Ministry Promotion Fund to ask for financial support.

Delegation of the Turkish Ministry of Health visited Sudan

Two-person delegation from the General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and General Directorate of Public Hospitals visited Sudan between 28 December 2017 and 03 January 2018 in order to exchange opinions with the Sudan authorities on boarding requirements of Nyala Sudan – Turkey Training and Research Hospital, employment of more Sudanese doctors at the hospital, Hartum Office Coordinator of the Turkish Ministry of Health, treatment of 100 Sudanese patients in Turkey under the bilateral cooperation agreement and training of healthcare staff.

The Turkish delegation met, in Hartum, with the 4-person delegation who previously went to Sudan on 23 December concerning provision of specialization training at Nyala Sudan – Turkey Training and Research Hospital and together they passed to Darfur Province where the hospital is located. The delegation held meetings with the Governor, Minister of Health and Minister of National Education of the Province and then held the final discussions with the representatives of Sudan Medical Specialization Board –authorized in the field of medical specialization in Sudan- and Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health back in Hartum. A courtesy visit was also made to Irfan Neziroglu, Ambassador of Turkey in Hartum, and returned to Turkey on 3 January 2018.

Treatment of Foreign Patients in Turkey

As per "Article 14 of the Basic Law on Health Services no 3359" 148 patients and as per Bilateral Agreements and Protocols 703 patients -851 foreign patients in total - were treated in Turkey as of 31 December 2017.
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