



5<sup>th</sup> Session

## MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

19-21 NOVEMBER 2019 | BELGRADE | SERBIA

### Legionnaires' disease surveillance and prevention in the pan-European region

#### Concept note

*Legionnaires' Disease - do you know what this disease is and how to guard against it?*

#### Background

Legionnaires' disease (LD) is an uncommon and mainly sporadic respiratory infection linked to water, with a significant heterogeneity in notification rates in the pan-European region. In several countries, there was an important increase in the number of cases in the last years. This trend is probably driven by several factors, including improved surveillance, an aging population, travel patterns and changes in climate and weather. Regular checks for the presence of *Legionella* bacteria and appropriate control measures applied to water systems may prevent cases of LD at tourist accommodation sites, hospitals, long term health care facilities and other public buildings.

#### Objectives, scope and expected outcome

LD is an important cause of potentially preventable morbidity and mortality in Europe and there is no indication of decreasing burden. The objectives of the side-event are to share information between countries of the pan-European region, discussing the important diversity of country situations and presenting different stories of management of Legionnaires' disease. The side-event will highlight the diversity of the facilities involved.



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## Programme

- 13:15 – 13:25 Opening and introduction (Moderation tbc)  
**Surveillance of Legionnaires' disease in Europe and pan-European region and notifications**
- 13.25 – 13.30 Legionellosis in the pan-European region and in relation to the Protocol on Water and Health (*Shinee Enkhtsetseg, WHO Regional Office for Europe*)  
**Feedbacks from expertise and major international scientific conferences on *Legionella* in the region**
- 13.30 – 13.35 France, with a focus on “Legionella bacteria surveillance in France and Europe” (*Sophie Jarraud, National Reference Center for Legionella*)
- 13.35 – 13.40 Italy, with a focus on “Legionnaires' disease surveillance in Italy” (*Maria Luisa Ricci, Istituto Superiore di Sanità*)  
**Public policies and prevention of community acquired or nosocomial cases of LD**
- 13.40 – 13.45 France, with a focus on “Feedback on 2010 regulation in Health care facilities or retirement homes and other public buildings in France” (*Yannick Pavageau, Ministry for Solidarities and Health*)
- 13.45 – 13.50 Hungary, with a focus on “Regulatory framework of legionellosis prevention in Hungary” (*Marta Vargha, National Institute for Public Health*)
- 13.50 – 13.55 The Netherlands, “Wastewater treatment plants as sources of Legionellosis and possible interventions in the Netherlands” (*Ana Maria de Roda Husman, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment*)
- 13.55 – 14.00 Switzerland, “A tool to identify sources of *Legionella* contamination?” (*Pierre Studer, Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA*)
- 14.00 – 14.10 **Engagement with the audience** (questions and answers)
- 14.10- 14.15 Conclusions in the framework of the Protocol on Water and Health

