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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2024 ISSUES 09 AND 10













# Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to our quarterly newsletter. This issue marks a momentous occasion as we conclude the World Health Organization's 75th-anniversary campaign. Our journey has been long, filled with remarkable achievements and unwavering commitment to global health under the vision to achieve Health For All.

Looking back, we see the profound impact of WHO's initiatives worldwide. From eradicating infectious diseases to pioneering mental health services, our work has saved lives and fostered healthier communities. WHO's presence in Jordan since 1960 epitomizes our dedication to enhancing healthcare systems and supporting the Ministry of Health in tackling various health challenges.



Dr Jamela Al-Raiby
WHO Representative to Jordan

Today, Jordan exemplifies progress and resilience. Our collaborative efforts have established a robust healthcare network that provides essential services to everyone, including citizens, refugees, and migrants. Routine vaccinations, maternal and child care and school health services are now accessible to all, reflecting our commitment to inclusivity and human rights.

However, as we celebrate our successes, we must also acknowledge the challenges ahead. The ongoing conflicts in oPt and neighboring countries place additional strain on the healthcare infrastructure. Yet, with the steadfast support of the United Nations in Jordan we are prepared to adapt and overcome these challenges with relentless determination.

As we wrap up the WHO 75th-anniversary campaign, let us renew our commitment to building a healthier, more resilient future. Together, under the slogan of World Health Day 2024 "My Health, My Right." we can still achieve the vision of health for all.

Thank you for your dedication and continued support.

Tamela (Al-Raiby

## Milestones, memories and reflections on WHO Jordan 75th campaign and celebrating our health champion!



Marking the conclusion of WHO 75th anniversary campaign, an emotional gathering of reflection was captured as WHO Jordan staff celebrated our health Champion HRH Princess Muna Al-Hussein. Highlighting the positive impact WHO has on public health in Jordan.

At WHO Jordan we are confident in our ability to adapt and thrive, working collectively to realize this year's slogan "My Health, my right."



#### WHO Jordan 2023 in a glimpse!

In this visual story, we show you the impactful work of WHO Jordan in collaboration with our partners. From delivering essential healthcare services to advocating for policy reforms, this is a glimpse of the continued collective efforts towards driving progress in Jordan's healthcare landscape.

#### **Welcome to New Beginnings**



Dr Hanan Balkhy was appointed WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean by the WHO Executive Board in January 2024. She took office on 1 February 2024.

From the WCO Jordan staff, we extend Dr Hanan Balkhy, a very warm welcome as she takes on her duties as WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean. We are excited to be working with you to realize the Health For All vision.





Dear Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari

#### **Goodbye and Good Luck!**

As you embark on a new chapter, we express our deepest gratitude for the profound impact you've had on the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region and more specifically here in Jordan. Your leadership during tough times has been a source of hope and resilience. In the face of unprecedented challenges, your guidance has been a source of strength, turning obstacles into opportunities. From the WHO Jordan, we wish your path ahead be paved with continued success, good health and the fulfillment of your aspirations.

From WCO Jordan Staff

# Strengthening the national regulatory system and enhancing local production capacity

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Jordan has made commendable strides in prioritizing healthcare and advancing public health initiatives. However, there is still work to be done to strengthen the regulatory capacity to reach international standards. This is the reason why we are here today.

#### **Dr Yukiko Nakatani**ADG of WHO for Access to Medicines and Health Products Division





The WHO High-level mission aimed to strengthen regulatory systems in Jordan, met with high-level government officials from Prime Ministry, Ministry of Health, Jordan Food and Drugs Administration and CEOs of national companies in the pharmaceutical sector to discuss WHO regulatory systems strengthening Programme and ongoing JFDA Benchmarking progress, to achieve at least a level 3 maturity.

This mission will contribute to enhancing and expanding the production of quality-assured, safe and efficacious medical products and facilitate exportation to international markets which will aid Jordan's regulatory capacity and positively impact health and economic sectors. WHO pledged support, contingent on Jordan's commitment to implementing necessary actions outlined in the Economic Modernization Vision for the pharmaceutical sector.

The 77th World Health Assembly started amid many challenges but

high hopes

H.E Minister of Health, Dr Feras Hawari, and Iordan's delegation, along with WHO Representative to Iordan Dr Jamela Al-Raiby, participated in the proceedings of the 77th World Health Assembly meeting in Geneva.





H.E Minister of Health, Dr Feras Hawari chaired Committee B at the 77th World Health Assembly where important resolutions related to pillar 4 "More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries" were examined and recommended. Ongoing conflicts in oPt and other matters related to the financial, administrative and governance of WHO were discussed.

The agenda led by the Minister of Health included discussions on topics centered around Universal Health Coverage (UHC), health emergencies including the health of refugees and migrants, and the promotion of health and well-being.





WHO amplifying collaborative national efforts led by MoH to advance SDG3 in Jordan

Led by the Ministry of Health and hosted by WHO Jordan, a technical consultation meeting was held bringing various focal points from government entities to review the collaborative efforts on SDG3 Data and governance in Jordan.



The Ministry of Health, In collaboration with the WHO Jordan conducted a workshop to review progress of SDG3 data and governance in Jordan. Participants from government and UN agencies are developing an action plan to support SDG3 data streamline for Jordan Development Portal.



Funded by the European Union and in partnership with the World Health Organization, a €15 million project was initiated to improve efficiency, equity and responsiveness of Primary Health Care System in Jordan.

MoH, EU and WHO partner-up to improve primary healthcare infrastructure in Jordan



# Accelerating Jordan's capacity to secure equitable access and supply chain

Stemming from the royal directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II, reflected in the Economic Modernization Vision (EMV) and inspired by WHO Regional Director for Eastern Mediterranean Flagship Programme.

Through a robust partnership between Ministry of Health, WHO Jordan and EU, a plan for Jordan health supply chain management is being implemented, introducing a state-of-the-art ultramodern national centralized medical warehouse in Zarqa to increase the capacity of national medical supply chain.







## Launching of national strategy to combat tobacco and smoking in all its forms 2024-2030

In response to the Royal directives and under the patronage of H.E. the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Health launched the National Strategy to Combat Tobacco and Smoking in all its forms for years 2024-2030 and the action plan derived from the strategy for years 2024-2026, with the support of WHO Jordan.







The launch of this strategy comes as a translation of the royal directives, making it a practical roadmap, based on evidence, and proportionate to the context of Jordan.

**Dr Feras Al-Hawari**Jordanian Minister of Health



This strategy represents an important step for achieving public health goals in Jordan. We value the efforts of the government and partners in developing it based on the foundations of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).

**Dr Jamela Al-Raiby** WHO Representative to Jordan







# WHO Jordan provides UNRWA health clinics with essential growth monitoring equipment

To enhance children growth monitoring services; WHO Jordan donated infant/child height measuring devices to UNRWA clinics. UNRWA runs a network of 25 clinics, spread throughout Jordan, serving a sizable population of 2.5 million Palestinian refugees.

## WHO HEARTS programme roll-out in Jordan continues for a third year

Interactive sessions involving real-life experiences from the field across multiple service providers, aimed at building capacities on the prevention and control of Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs) and their risk factors at Primary Health Care.





## Strengthening Jordan's health system through primary health care

Ministry of Health with the support of WHO, the Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan, and the Spanish Cooperation Project launched Jordan's Stepwise survey for Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) risk factors 2024.



**International Nurses Day** 

There is no doubt that, it is the collective power of the nursing and midwifery workforce that energies the economic power of care, which fosters healthy people and societies and drives healthy economies and global health security.

Therefore, making progress toward universal health coverage and equitable and resilient health systems cannot be achieved unless nurses and midwives are seriously and solidly invested in while being respected, visible and valued at national and global levels.

As a matter of fact, we don't have the luxury of time, so the pace must be accelerated. Governments must act immediately to determine what investments are required to strengthen and sustain the nursing and midwifery workforce now and in the future.

My heroes, wishing you all happy International Nurses and Midwives Days.

Her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al - Hussein





## WHO and Ministry of Health training professionals on Health Care for Child Development (CCD)

WHO Jordan in collaboration with the Women and Child Health Directorate at Ministry of Health, a series of trainings was launched aiming to empower parents and caregivers to provide responsive and safe parenting interventions to their children.

## WHO-Supported mission to verify the elimination of leprosy in Jordan

WHO Global Leprosy Programme constituted an independent team of experts to conduct verification for elimination of leprosy disease in Jordan. Following on the interviews, field visits and data review, independent verification team found required evidence that Jordan has reached the goal of elimination of leprosy disease. The mission found that Jordan demonstrated strong political commitment, programme implementation and robust surveillance to detect and manage any new case of leprosy.





## Advanced Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) data management and causality assessment workshop, and deployment of Vigimobile

In collaboration with WHO Jordan, Ministry of Health and Jordan Food and Drug Administration conducted a 3-day workshop to enhance the national vaccine pharmacovigilance system, by focusing on Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) surveillance using WHO methodology, aligned national guidelines to boost vaccine safety were reviewed.

In the efforts to enhance practical training and experience sharing, MoH, JFDA, WHO Jordan and national stakeholders visited a vaccination health facility to observe immunization sessions and discuss AEFI management.

Concluding this mission, MoH, JFDA and Upsala Monitoring Center, WHO Jordan conducted a 2-day workshop to rollout and implement VigiMobile in Jordan. This new tool aims to enhance the electronic reporting of AEFIs, ensuring data capture for better analysis and informed decision-making.



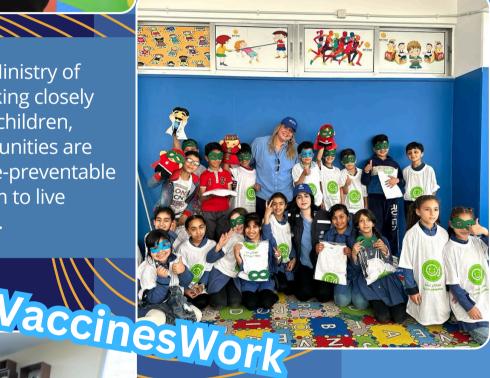




# Community engagement activities for the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)

As part of the national communication campaign on routine immunization in Jordan. A series of community engagement activities and events are taking place across Jordan to raise awareness around Jordan's EPI.

WHO Jordan and the Ministry of Health have been working closely for decades to ensure children, adults and their communities are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, allowing them to live happier, healthier lives.





Community engagement activities with Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Royal Health Awareness Society focused on 5 main pillars; nurseries, schools, household visits, community lectures and health center lectures, ensuring that people in Jordan from all walks of life have access to necessary information on immunization realizing Heath For All vision.



## WHO raising capacity for better mental health care for children in Jordan

Under the WHO-UNICEF joint program on mental health, psychosocial well-being and development of children and adolescents in Jordan, the directorate of Women and Child Health at the Ministry of Health held a training of trainers on the Care for Children Development to health care providers in Jordan.

As part of the WHO Eastern
Mediterranean regional campaign to
combat the stigma of mental health
issues. WHO Jordan produced this
video as one of a series of testimonial
videos featuring people with lived
experience of mental health
conditions.

WHO Jordan supports the national efforts to improve mental health care quality



## Overcoming mental health challenges

**Ahmad Adileh** 





### Overcoming Mental Health Challenges, Ahmed's Story

Dive into the story of Ahmed as he unveils his journey overcoming his mental health challenges.
This Video comes as part of the WHO regional campaign to spread awareness on mental health stigma.

#### WHO Jordan promotes the role of health education with future health sector leaders

It was a pleasure hosting Students from Jordan University of Science and Technology and from Al-Ahliyya Amman University's Primary Health Care Masters Programme at WHO Jordan. WHO priorities and programmes were discussed with focus on building the capacities of future primary health care (PHC) professionals!







#### Advancing COVID-19 response gains in Jordan

WHO Emergency Team in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and Country Office in Jordan held a joint workshop aimed at advancing key findings of the Sustaining COVID-19 Gains in EMR report and to generate discussion within Jordan's national context.

### Better access to data for improved PHC infrastructure

A high-level review mission to support the Ministry of Health with its vision of integrating of *Hakeem* Electronic Medical Records (EMR) with WHO supported DHIS2 platform at the Primary Health Care level.











## Empowering technical teams with communications and operations essentials

At WHO Jordan, we kicked off 2024 on a high note with our Communications and Operations Essentials Workshop! We delved into visual storytelling, social media advocacy, and internal communication with enthusiasm and purpose, shaping our narrative for the year ahead.

While colleagues at Operations provided the staff with in-depth view and hands-on demonstration on the new Business Management System (BMS) and travel management application.



This Communication and Operations Essentials workshop exemplifies our office's commitment to transformation ocllaboration and staff well-being, equipping the teams with essential communication skills to amplify WHO's impact on the ground and make our work more visible for the people in Jordan.

## WHO Jordan supporting Ministry of Health to ensure quality immunization services





22

**Training Sessions** 



719

**Healthcare Workers** 



84%

Women

## Enhancing Jordan's capacities in Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPDs) surveillance

The Ministry of Health and WHO Jordan collaborate to strengthen vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) surveillance in Jordan, 15 VPD surveillance refresher training sessions were held for 482 physicians & surveillance officers across the country.

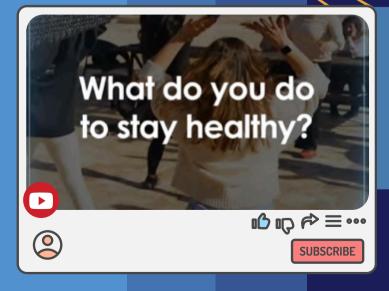


#### **WCO Jordan Thematic Weeks**



WHO Jordan plans and develops content for thematic weeks for public health areas to disseminate awareness messages on its platforms in collaboration with technical teams and external partners advancing public health.





At WHO Jordan, we celebrated the Mother Language Day by asking our colleagues in office to tell us what do they do to stay healthy in their own languages?

Check the video to know what

Check the video to know what they told us!

International Mother Language Day

#### Meet our staff



Being part of the immunization team at WHO Jordan Country Office means contributing to a mission larger than myself – ensuring that every child, no matter where they're born, can lead a healthy life. This mission is close to my heart because I envision a world where everyone, everywhere feels safe and healthy. Together, we're making a real difference, and that fills me with hope and purpose every single day.

**Dania Al-Mubaied**Public Health Associate



As an Operations team member at the WHO Jordan Country Office, I have been fortunate to contribute to the facilitation and support of WHO's activities and endeavors. I view my undertaking as a piece in the puzzle of archiving health and well-being for all.

Omar Ahmad
Operations Assistant



#### **THANK YOU**









Jordan



