



Delegation of Punjab State, Pakistan Visited Turkey

"Grant Agreement in the Field of Health between Government of Republic of Turkey and Government of Republic of Yemen" was Signed



Ministry of Health of the Republic of Turkey, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs



# Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU

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## Memorandum of Understanding signed between Ministry of Health of Turkey and Government of Punjab

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Ministerial Delegation visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Ministerial Delegation visited Sudan

WHO Director-General Candidates Forum

## Health Journal of Foreign Affairs and EU

Republic of Turkey  
Ministry of Health  
General Directorate of  
EU and Foreign Affairs

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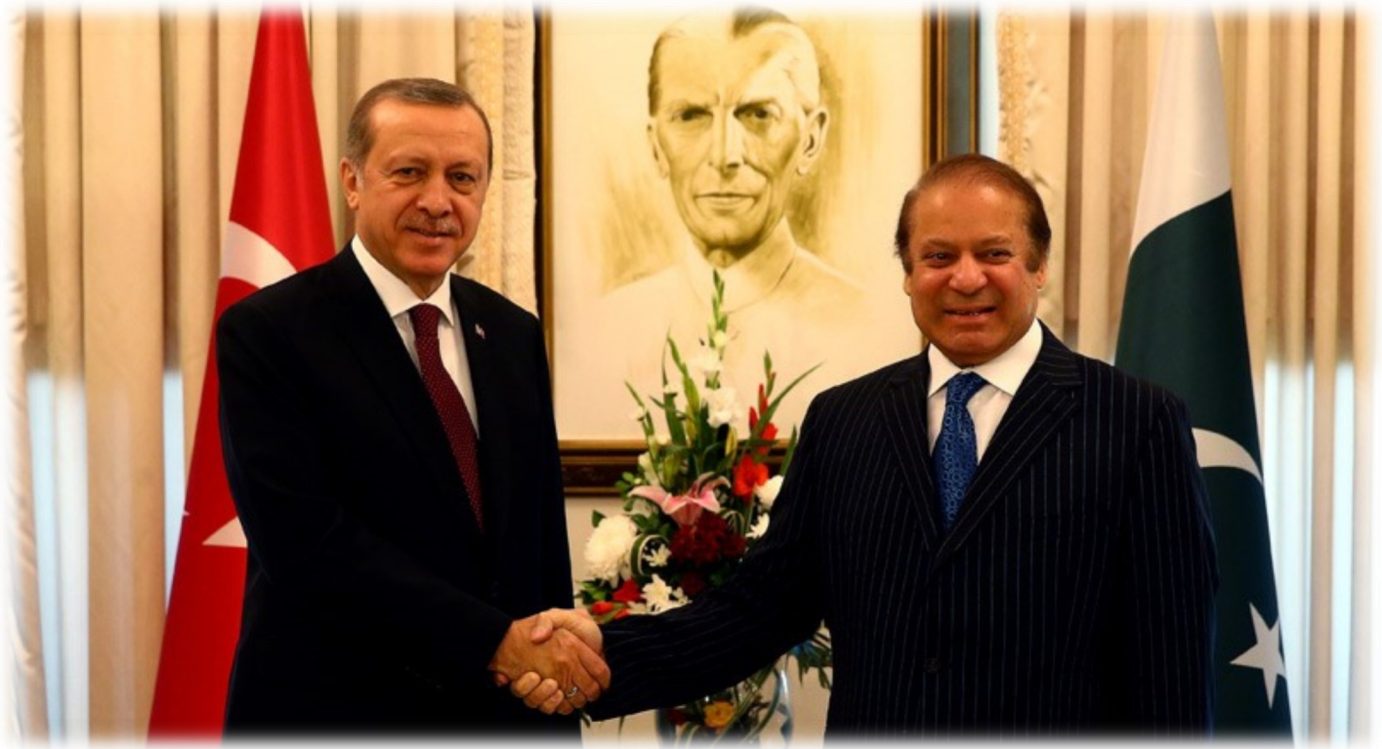
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## Memorandum of Understanding signed between Ministry of Health of Turkey and Government of Punjab

Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Project for Health System Transformation in Punjab prepared upon agreement between Ministry of Health of Turkey and Government of Punjab, Pakistan, was signed by Punjab Health Authority

and Babür Girgin, Turkey Ambassador to Islamabad in the presence of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey, and Navaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan on November 17th, 2016 in Lahore.



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## Delegation of Punjab State, Pakistan Visited Turkey

Mr. Khawaja Shamail Ahmed, Deputy Minister of Punjab State, and accompanying deputies and high-ranking bureaucrats paid official visit to Turkey between the dates of November 6-13, 2016. Prof. Dr. Recep Akdağ, Minister of Health, received guest delegation on November 8, 2016 and issues about Punjab Health System and fields of cooperations were addressed.

Within the scope of the visit, Delegation made field visits in Ankara and Istanbul, informative presentations were delivered to them.

During the visit,

- Turkey Public Health Institution
- Health Disaster Coordination Center (SAKOM)
- Private Sector Structures

- Public Health Laboratories
- 112 Command Control Center
- Council of Higher Education - Yıldırım Beyazıt University
- Public Hospital Union
- Atatürk Training and Research Hospital (Performance System)
- Bilkent City Hospital
- Ministry of Health Communication Center (SABİM)
- Visits to Public and Private Hospitals (Istanbul)
- Family Health Center (Istanbul)
- Community Health Center (Istanbul)
- Disaster Coordination Center (Presidency of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality)

were visited.



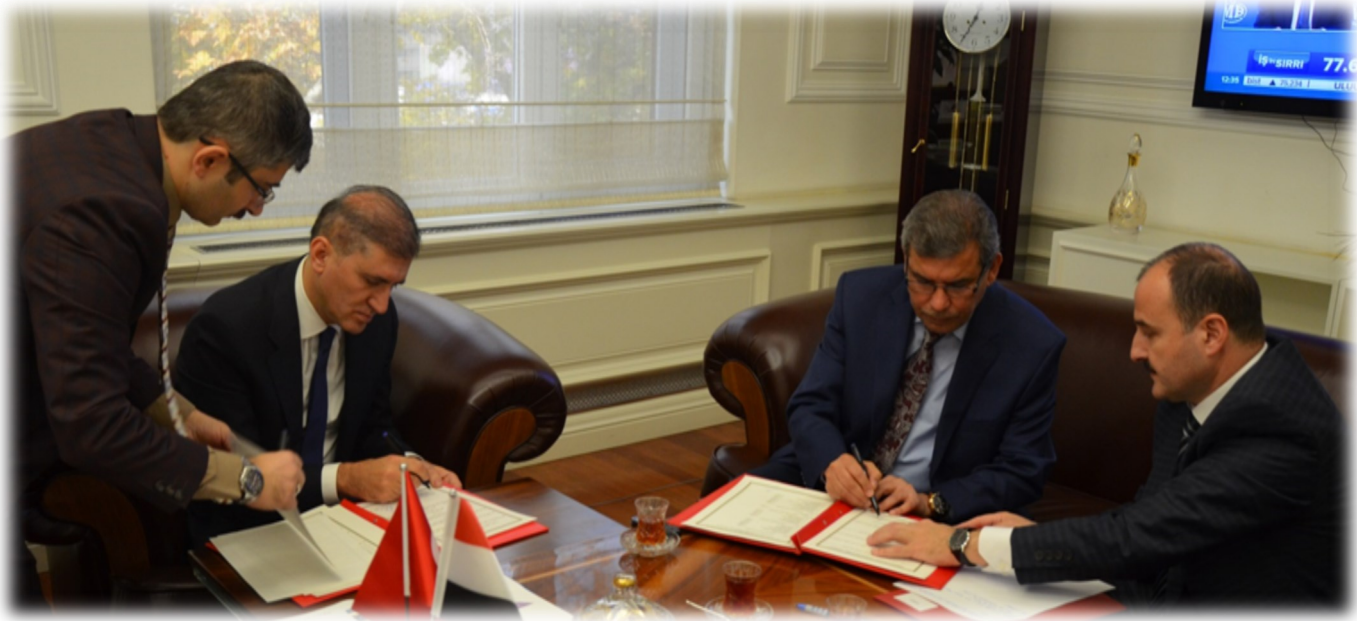
## Prof. Dr. Recep Akdağ, Minister of Health of Turkey Visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Prof. Dr. Recep Akdağ, Minister of Health of Turkey, visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia between the dates of November 21-26, 2016 with the accompanying Ministerial technical committee and businessmen in order to evaluate the fields

of cooperations planned to be realized in the future and to discuss the cooperation activities in the field of health jointly carried out by Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

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## "Grant Agreement in the Field of Health between Government of Republic of Turkey and Government of Republic of Yemen" was Signed

"Grant Agreement in the Field of Health between Government of Republic of Turkey and Government of Republic of Yemen" was signed by Prof. Dr. Eyüp Gümüş, Undersecretary of Ministry

of Health of Turkey and Abdullah Ali Fadhel Al-Saadi, Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen to Turkey on November 28, 2016 at the office of Undersecretary.

## Iranian Technical Committee Visited Turkey

A delegation of seven in the presidency of Senior Advisor to Minister from Ministry of Health of Iran visited Ministry of Health of Turkey between the dates of November 1-2, 2016. Within the scope of the visit made in order to receive information, make evaluation and have meetings about regulations, projects, bidding regulations and financing of Public-Private Partnership and

service structure and planning of health care, meetings were conducted with Turkey Public Hospitals Institutions, General Directorate of Health Investments and private consulting firm operating in this field. Besides, Iranian delegation had meeting with authorities of Bilkent Hospital Campus.

## Coordination Meeting for Structural Transformation of Health System in TRNC

General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the coordination meeting held within the scope of Structural Transformation of Health System planned to be realized in TRNC at Prime Ministry on November 10, 2016.

At the meeting, it is planned to create a committee by Ministry of Finance, Social Security Institution and Ministry of Health to establish legal substructure for the reforms in health system in

TRNC accepted by TRNC for the hospitals planned to be constructed by aid committee of the Prime Ministry of Turkey in Nicosia, Morphou and maybe in Trikomo. It is planned to include regulations including Full time employment system, Patients' Rights, Private Hospitals, Performance system and other components of health transformation among the study topics of the Ministry of Health of Turkey.



## Ministerial Delegation visited Sudan

A delegation of five officials from Ministry of Health and Health Sciences Universities visited Sudan between the dates of November 27, and December 02, 2016 in order to make evaluation at Nyala Turkey Training and Research Hospital in Darfur State of Sudan and to discuss Health Sciences University Health Occupation High School and Training for Specialty in Medicine planned to serve integrated with this hospital.

The delegation had meetings with H.E. Hasabu Mohammed, President of Sudan, İdris Abu Garda, Federal Minister of Health of Sudan, Minister and Undersecretary of Sudan Higher Education, Undersecretary of Minister of Health of Sudan, President of Sudan High Council of Health, President of Health Academy, Governor of Darfur, Minister of Health of Darfur and Cemalettin Aydın, Turkish Ambassador in Pakistan.

## Ministerial Delegation visited Pakistan

Within the scope of our activities in Punjab State, Pakistan, Ministerial technical delegation of seven visited Punjab State between the dates of November 23, and December 04, 2016 to carry out Action Plan activities as part of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Action Plan on the Strengthening of the Health Systems & Public Health Programs in Punjab, Pakistan between

the Ministry of Health, Republic of Turkey & the Punjab Health Departments of Islamic Republic of Pakistan signed during the visit of President of the Republic of Turkey. During the visit, convenient component and experiences of Turkey about Health Transformation Program was shared with Punjab Health System.

## Dr. Aydın Beyatlı, Member of Board of Directors of Turkmeneli Foundation visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs

Dr. Aydın Beyatlı, Member of Board of Directors of Turkmeneli Foundation visited General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs on November 8, 2016.

At the meeting, he mentioned that they planned to organize Iraq Health and Brotherhood Meeting under Mevlana Climate in Konya between the

dates of December 23-26, 2016 and requested support of Ministry of Health for training of medical doctors especially from Iraq, drug policies, regulations for the foundation and opening of private health institutions and return of Iraqi doctors working abroad to Iraq to serve in Iraq.

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## WHO Director-General Candidates Forum

There will be an election for the position of WHO General Director at 70th World Health Assembly organized in May 2017. 6 candidates has already declared their candidacy for WHO General Directorate. Before the election at the assembly, at the meeting of Executive Board number of candidates will first be reduced from 6 to 5 and then to 3.

In this regard, Candidates Forum will be held in Geneva between the dates of November 1-2, 2016 where candidates share their visions about WHO and answer the question of participants. Since Turkey is member of Executive Board and have active role in the election of Candidates, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and Turkey Public Health Institution attended the meeting.

## Meeting of OECD Health Care Quality Indicators Expert Group

General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting which was held in Paris between the dates of November 3-4, 2016 and evaluations about treatment services in OECD states were made and innovative initiatives were

shared. At the meeting, issues about hospital performance, primary healthcare services, patient security, treatment quality assessment and dementia treatments.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of OECD Health Committee

At the meeting held in Paris between the dates of November 7-8, 2016, issues about Ministry Conference to be held in 2017, halt data governance, health system performance, obesity, nourishment and physical activity, aging etc. were addressed. General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs participated the meeting as well.

At the meeting, Secretary gave information about studies carried out in the fields of primary health care and patient security and studies to be carried out in 2017-2018 period, progress made in the studies indicator improvement studies related to the issue. The current situation about R&D studies, assessment of low quality health services and indicator improvement studies and studies and cooperations with other OECD organs and organization were presented. Secretariat presented updates about Assessment of Quality with patient outcomes which is one the best quality assessments of Hospital Performance

Project and health services, assessment of dementia services, health quality indicators and Policy Forum and Meeting of Ministries to be held between the dates of January 16-17, 2017 and exchange of experience and knowledge of the countries were shared.

At the meeting, documents prepared by Secretariat about unequal aging, health expenditure policies, obesity, nourishment and physical activity, collection of patient outcome results and hospital performance projects were addressed. Besides, Draft OECD Recommendation and Ministry Declaration on Big Data Management which will be accepted by Ministries at the Meeting of Health Ministers to be held on January 17, 2017 were presented for their suggestions. Delegations were presented current affairs about agenda and programs of Ministry Meeting and High-Level Political Forum to be held one day before Ministry Meeting.

## Meeting of Family and Social Work Group for Diaspora Strategy

In the coordination of the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, the 2nd meeting of Family and Social Work Group was held at the Ministry of Family and Social Policies on November 8, 2016 in order to prepare Diaspora

Strategy of Turkey. At the meeting, Draft Document of Diaspora Strategy prepared by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies was shared with stakeholder institutions and their contribution was received.

## Resource Mobilization Meeting of OIC SHPA

At the 11th Meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Steering Committee on Health in March 2016, Resource Mobilization Work Group was decided to be created in order to overcome the fiscal drags in the implementation of Strategic Health Program of Action (SHPA) activities of OIC.

In this regard, teleconference in which authorities and working areas of the working group were addressed was held on November 8, 2016. At the teleconference in which General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs participated, it is agreed that the following meetings would be held between the dates of December 7-9, 2016.

## Fall General Assembly of NATO-JHAFG (Joint Health, Agriculture and Food Group)

Fall General Assembly of Joint Health Agriculture and Food Group was held between the dates of November 29-30, 2016 which address health issues in the framework of Civil Emergency Planning of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) that plays a part in international security architecture and of which Turkey is a member. General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and

General Directorate of Health for Borders and Coasts attended the meeting as well.

At the General Assembly, criteria related to civil emergency planning of the member states were evaluated concerning resilience capacity of states for health workforce planning and civil emergency planning.

## Meeting For Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Being

Under the title of "Monitoring Mechanism" at 7th Chapter of Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Being of Council of Europe, it is stated that a mechanism is created by establishing Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. Pursuant to the provision, Council of Europe held a meeting addressing the issues related to operation principles of the mechanism in Ankara between the dates of November 8-9, 2016.

t the meeting, general information about the scope and articles of Convention was delivered, structure and operation principles of GRETA was introduced and works for human trafficking and fights against it in Turkey were addressed. General Directorate of Health Services and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting as well.

## Preliminary and Consultation Meetings of Economic Reform Program

urkey, as the candidate state for the full membership of European Union, has prepared Economic Reform Program (ERP) since 2001 and presented to Council of Europe upon the request of Economic and Financial Affairs Council dated November 26/27, 2000. ERP studies covering 2017-2019 term has started and a delegation from European Commission visited Turkey between the dates of November 16-17, 2016 to hold consultation especially about the preparations related to Structural Reforms.

Before the visit, preliminary meeting was held at Ministry of Development on November 11, 2016 with the participation of related institutions and foundations in order to determine general view and attitude of Turkey. After the preliminary meetings, a meeting with delegation from European Commission was held on November 16, 2016. General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs participated the meetings as well.



## **Health and Pharmacy Work Group Meeting of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization**

Health and Pharmacy Work Group Meeting of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization was held at Headquarter of Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on November 24, 2016 and Turkey Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency, General Directorate of Health for Borders and Coast and General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Coordinator State made presentation about Health and Pharmacy Action Plan covering 2016-2018 term and consultation was held about Memorandum of Understanding on Exchange of Knowledge and Cooperation about the Quality Assurance of Drugs.

## **Coordination Meeting between Turkey-Public Governing Bodies**

Authorities of General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs, Public Health Institution and Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency attended the held at Ministry of Foreign Affairs on November 24, 2016. At the meeting, it is agreed to make free trade agreement and subgroups functional. The first of two Senior Officers Meetings in 2017 will be held in Turkey and health

issues will be discussed at the meeting. It is expressed that medicinal product trade and exchange of expertise, exchange of health personnel, improvement of health tourism and removal of trading barriers in health sector would improve the relations with Public Governing Bodies .

## **Preliminary Meeting for Performance Evaluation of Health System**

Turkey Health System Performance Evaluation study conducted in coordination with World Health Organization and World Bank in 2011 will be repeated after being updated in accordance with restructuring and applications of Ministry of Health.

In this regard, at the meeting held with the participation of representatives of WHO in Ankara between the dates of November 21-23, 2016, indicators that would be used in Health System Performance Evaluation was determined.

## **10th Monthly Board Meeting and 3rd Social Inclusion Consultation Team Meeting of Support Project for Social Inclusion at Places Where Romans are Densely Populated**

Ministry of Health held 10th Monthly Board Meeting on November 1, 2016 at Ministry of Family and Social Policies and 3rd Social Inclusion Consultation Team Meeting on November 4, 2016 in the framework of "Support Project for Social Inclusion at Places Where Romans are Densely Populated" conducted jointly with Ministry of Family and Social Policies and Ministry of National Education.

At the meeting, the activities carried out since the previous monthly board meeting were evaluated and opinions were exchanged to achieve the

maximum benefit from the activities to be carried out future periods. At the second meeting, participants expressed their opinions and suggestions on New Social Service Model Application Guideline Draft and Second Report Draft of Public Policies for the Support for Social Inclusion and Social Status of Romans in Turkey and opinions were exchanged to finalize the draft documents. Representatives from General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meetings.

## **Workshop about the Syrians under Temporary Protection**

On behalf of the Ministry of Health, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the Workshop about the Syrians under Temporary Protection conducted at Ankara Plaza Hotel between the dates of November 22-23, 2016.

At the workshop, immigrant rights, cooperation between public institutions and non-governmental organizations, access to social services, social inclusion project for Syrian women and children were discussed.

## **Education Program for Turkey Public Health Institution about European Union Acquis Communautaire and Projects**

Within the scope of the training provided at Turkey Public Health Institution on November 29, 2016, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs gave training about Turkey-EU Affairs, general

information and recent developments about Negotiation Chapter Headings related to Ministry of Health and about the projects funded by EU.

## **Consultation Meeting of TAIEX Application for Rare Diseases**

A meeting was held at General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs for a workshop that General Directorate of Health Services planned to hold about rare diseases by using TAIEX funds on November 15, 2016.

Representatives of General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and General Directorate of Health Services attended the meeting.

At the meeting, it was stated that the workshop should be held in the framework of a program to be prepared by taking EU legislation into consideration and this situation was presented to the attention of representatives of General Directorate of Health Services. Representatives were informed that it was necessary to have access to TAIEX system for application and they should get password through General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Vaccine Manufacturers Group**

The 3rd Meeting of Vaccine Manufacturers Group that aimed to bring vaccine manufacturer companies in OIC Member States together and to create convergence in the vaccine manufacturing policies was held at Bandung, Indonesia between the dates of November 14-15, 2016.

General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting in which short, medium and long term plans of the group were addressed and Keymen Pharmaceutical Company from Turkey was elected as member.

## **ECDC EPIS Data Protection Agreement User Contact Meeting**

Provisions of EPIS Data Protection Agreement prepared for users assigned by Turkey Public Health Institution in the framework of EPIS FWD (Food and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses) and EPIS ELDSNet (Legionella) of European Center for Disease Prevention and Control were presented to the users by representatives of General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs at 1st Floor Meeting Hall at G Block of Turkey Public Health Institution on November 11, 2016.

## **Economic Cooperation Organization Regional Planning Council Meeting**

General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs attended the meeting held at Ministry of Development on 11 November 2016 as part of the preparations for 27th Meeting of Regional Planning Council to be held in 2017 by Economic Cooperation Organization.

## 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 245 foreign healthcare staff received training as of 30 November 2016 as follows:

Out of 11 foreign healthcare staff:

- Training of 1 Afghanistani healthcare staff is ongoing in the field of Gynecology for 17 October 2016- 17 February 2017,
  - Training of 1 Palestinian healthcare staff is ongoing in the field of Pediatrics for 5 September 2016- 1 September 2017,
  - Training of 9 Sudanese healthcare staff is ongoing in the field of Brain Surgery, Anesthesia, Emergency and Pediatrics for 10 October 2016- 7 April 2017,
- at the Research and Training Hospitals.

## Meeting of Economic Reform Program

A meeting was held at the Ministry of Development between the dates of 15-16 November 2016 as part of Economic Reform Program (ERP) which is prepared since 2001 and preparation works are carried out for 2017-2018 term upon the request of European Union Economic and Financial Affairs Council. Representatives of General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and Department of Health Tourism attended the meeting.

Preliminary meeting was held on 15 November 2016 to determine the general view and attitude of Turkey and to exchange opinions about the preparations for new ERP, especially for Structural Reform part.

## Meeting of the Competent Authority on Blood and Blood Products

Along with the competent authority representatives of 28 Member States, Turkey attended the Meeting of the Competent Authority on Blood and Blood Products held Brussels, Belgium hosted by Directorate General Health and Food Safety between the dates of 30 November - 1 December 2016. General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs and General Directorate of Health Services of Ministry of Health attended the meeting at which latest developments in Blood and Blood Products.

## Preliminary Meeting of Project for Increasing Health Literacy of Disadvantaged Groups

A meeting was held at the European Union and Financial Assistance Department of Ministry of Labor and Social Security on 8 November 2016 as part of preparatory works for Operation Identification Document of the Project (OIC) of which Turkey Public Health Institution is beneficiary and which prepared under Education, Employment and Social Inclusion Sector which is the 7th Sector within the 2014-2020 (IPA-II) Term of Instrument of Pre-Accession Financial Assistance (IPA). Representatives from General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs participated the meeting as well.

At the meeting, activities planned in the OIS which is one of the basic documents of the projects were updated according to the questions of Ministry of Labor and Social Security.

## Treatment of Foreign Patients in Turkey

As per "Article 14 of the Basic Law on Health Services no 3359" 106 patients and as per Bilateral Agreements and Protocols 647 patients - 753 foreign patients in total - were treated in Turkey as of 31 October 2016.

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