When was the IHR implemented?

The IHR was implemented on June 15, 2007 by all WHO Member States.

What is an IHR focal Point?

The establishment of National IHR Focal Point is intended to promote and facilitate information sharing between WHO and its Member States. Greater understanding of the event as it unfolds, plus the assurance of timely technical collaboration is expected to lead to a climate of greater willingness on the part of Member States to contact the WHO when a possible public health emergency of international concern is suspected.

The National Epidemiology Center (NEC) was named as the National IHR Focal Point in the Philippines. The IHR requires that the NEC will be responsible for the following activities, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- report to WHO evidence of a public health risk identified outside their territory which may cause international disease spread, manifested by exported/imported human cases, vectors carrying infection or contaminated goods;
- respond appropriately to WHO-recommended measures; and
- collaborate with other States Parties and with WHO on IHR (2005) implementation.

for more information, contact the:

National Epidemiology Center
Department of Health
Manila, Philippines
Tel. # 731-3726 and 651-7800 local 2927-2929

THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS 2005
What is the International Health Regulations or IHR?

- **is a legally binding international agreement between WHO and Member States.**
- To help countries work together in covering PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY of INTERNATIONAL CONCERN (PHEIC) and prevent the international spread of disease and other health risk

What is the Purpose of the IHR 2005?

- Prevent, protect against, control and provide A PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE to the international spread of disease.
- Commensurate with and restricted to public health risks.
- To avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade.

Why is there a need for IHR?

New challenges have arisen in the areas of public health control of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases; the progress of an increase in cross-border ravel and trade; and the fast development of communication technology. In all these aspects, a need arises to increase the confidence of countries in reporting significant and/or unusual disease events, by linking early disclosure to prompt support and accurate information dissemination about the nature of these health events.

What is the difference between the old IHR (1969) and new IHR (2005)?


What is a PHEIC?

PHEIC stands for Public Health Emergency of International Concern

For an event to be classified as a PHEIC it should satisfy 2 out of the following 4 criteria:

- Seriousness of public health impact of the event.
- Unusual or unexpected nature of the event.
- Potential for international spread.
- Potential for any travel or trade restriction because of the event.

An event can be classified as a PHEIC after it is assessed using the IHR Annex 2 tool: