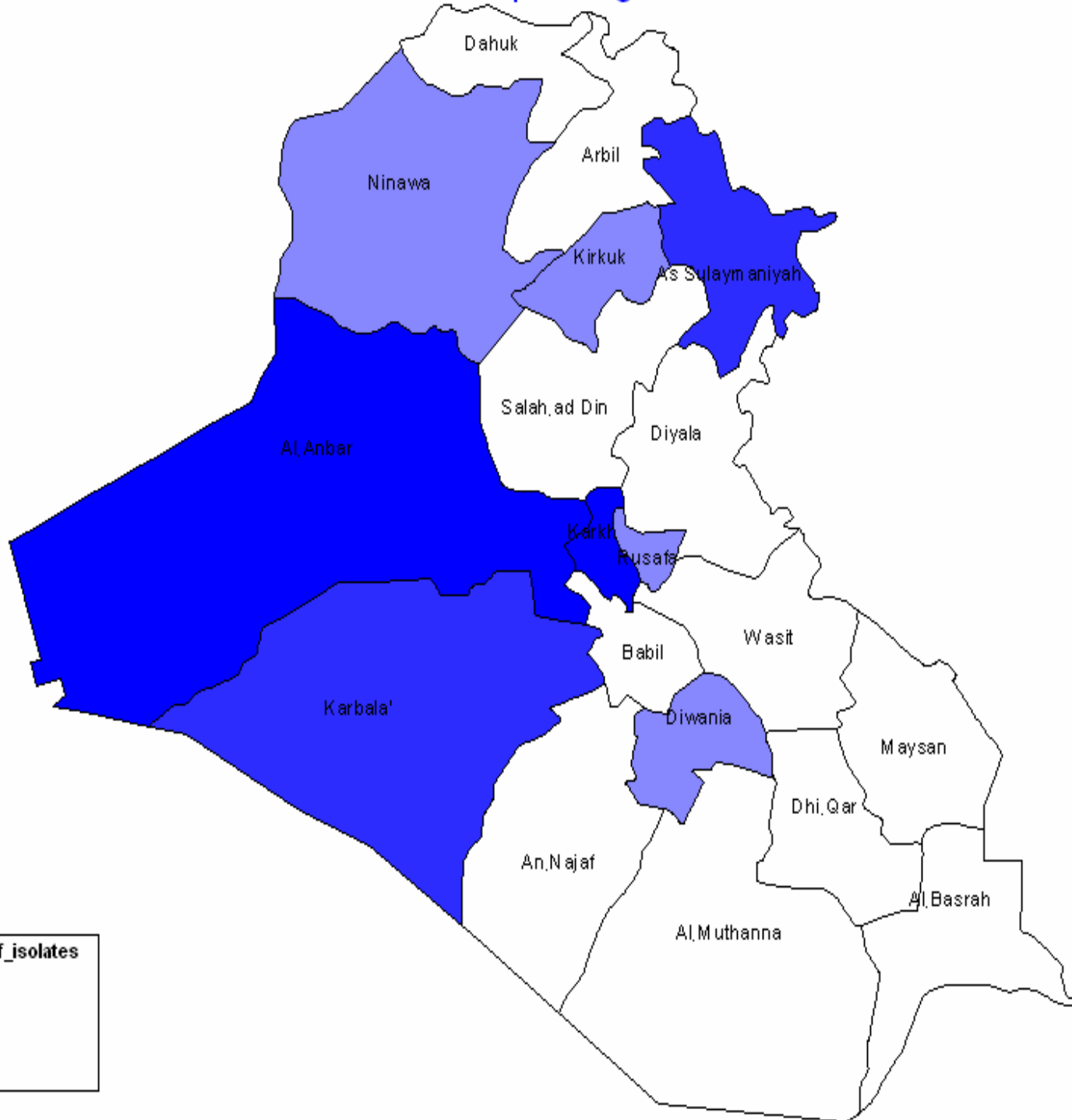


Ministry of Health – Iraq  
Public health directorate  
Communicable diseases control center

# Biological weapons convention meeting of Experts 2010

DR. HASSAN MUSLEM  
M.B.CH.B., D.C.M., F.I.C.M.S. (O&E)  
IRAQI CDC DIRECTOR



# Biological weapons convention

The Public Health directorate / Iraqi Ministry of Health is responsible for controlling communicable diseases, putting the plans and programs to control them through the following departments:

1- Communicable Diseases Center (CDC)

2- Central Public Health Laboratories (CPHL).

# MOH Structure :

MOH Consist of the following directorates:

- 1– Administrative and legal Directorate .
- 2– Operational Directorate. And specialized services
- 3– Planning and Health Teaching Directorate.
- 4– State company for Drugs and medical appliances ( Kimadia )

# **MOH Structure :**

**5- Technical affairs Directorate.**

**6- General Inspection office**

**7- Public Health Directorate.**

**8- 19 DOH in provinces.**

# **MOH Structure :**

## **Directorate of public health**

**Directorate of public health consist of the following departments:**

- 1- primary health care.**
- 2- CDC center.**
- 3- Health Monitoring**
- 4- CPHL.**
- 5- TB center.**
- 6- HIV and STD center.**
- 7- Nutritional institute.**
- 8- Health education**

# **MOH Structure :**

## **CDC center**

**CDC center----consist of the following sections:**

- 1- surveillance.**
- 2- schistosomiasis and parasitic infestation.**
- 3-zoonotic diseases.**
- 4- enteric diseases.**
- 5- acute respiratory diseases.**
- 6- viral hepatitis.**
- 7- malaria.**
- 8- Rodent and insects control.**
- 8- administrative.**

# Surveillance system : kind of system

- ▶ **Routine surveillance system for all communicable diseases.**
- ▶ **Active surveillance for EPI targeted diseases.**

# Surveillance system :

## Data Collection

Communicable diseases are classified into:

- 1- immediately notifiable diseases.
- 2- weekly reported diseases.
- 3- monthly reported diseases.
- 4- monthly mortality report .

For each class--- list of the diseases and standard form were prepared

# Surveillance system

## DATA COLLECTION

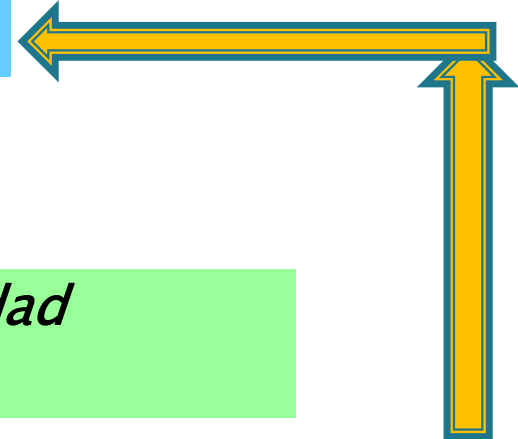
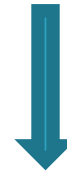
### flow chart of Data collection

*Surveillance sites PHCs and hospitals ( 1113 sites)*

*Primary health Districts ( 125 Districts )*

*DOHs ( 19 )*

*MOH /CDC center in Baghdad  
surveillance section*



# Higher committee supervising the bioterrorism

- The committee is directing the different issues and updating the plan and management of the events with allied partners
- Institute of toxicology / Medical city Directorate.
- \* All ministries related to topic has role in preventing & control any event related to potentially biological agents
- \* Directorate of operation & specialized services emergency room.

# Question?:

- If a biological weapons were to be used tomorrow , how would we Improving national capabilities for diseases Surveillance detection & diagnosis and Public Health systems.

# situation of the Laboratories in Iraq

- 1- The data managements and data base line of Laboratories results are shared in collaboration with CDC in poliomyelitis, measles ,Avian flu, Rota ,HIV, Hepatitis, cholera ,Typhoid, and other Communicable Diseases that have an epidemic trend (including the potential microorganisms concern with bioterrorism like anthrax) .
- 2- There are a continuous monitoring policy of communicable diseases through an investigation form and algorithms at national Laboratories in order to determine antimicrobial resistance. in spite of that there are trained staff are certified .currently the shipment of biological material is carried out through WHO support.

# Biosafety:

Ministry of health (MOH) Laboratories are depending on international reports to carry out Biosafety instruction and procedures (there is no national Biosafety guide)

**The assessment of biorisk in Iraq is carry out thorough :**

- ❖ taking swabs from surgical theaters in hospitals .
- ❖ water analysis from different health facilities distributed all over the country .
- ❖ presence of Biosafety committee in hospitals & Laboratories.

At time being Iraqi Laboratories have the ability to carry out biological Biosafety Level (1&2).

Only with presence of workshops for training laboratory staff on biological safety with presence of regulation deal with how to get Rid of infectious substances for medical & non – medical waste in cooperation with ministry of environmental & Baghdad Municipality.

# Quality assurance:

- ❖ There are some applications on the availability of national standards and national system accreditation according to ISO system or other international systems in Iraq such as presence of some guideline and national policies that determine laboratory activities , e.g.:  
((measles , poliomyelitis , avian flu., food & water, maternal & child care programs))
- ❖ some of these laboratories participate in external quality control which supervised by WHO , e.g., polio& measles .
- ❖ CPHL is considered as an dependent & unique national reference laboratory Which is responsible for the evaluation of all kits & equipments that imported to Iraq.

# Sample collection and transportation:

- ❖ The ability of sample collection , organization & shipment inside country are carry out according to regulations with available experience in medical organizations about dealing with communicable diseases samples.
- ❖ monitoring necessary equipments to transport these samples during shipments with taking care the circumstances a rounding sample according to global recommendations.

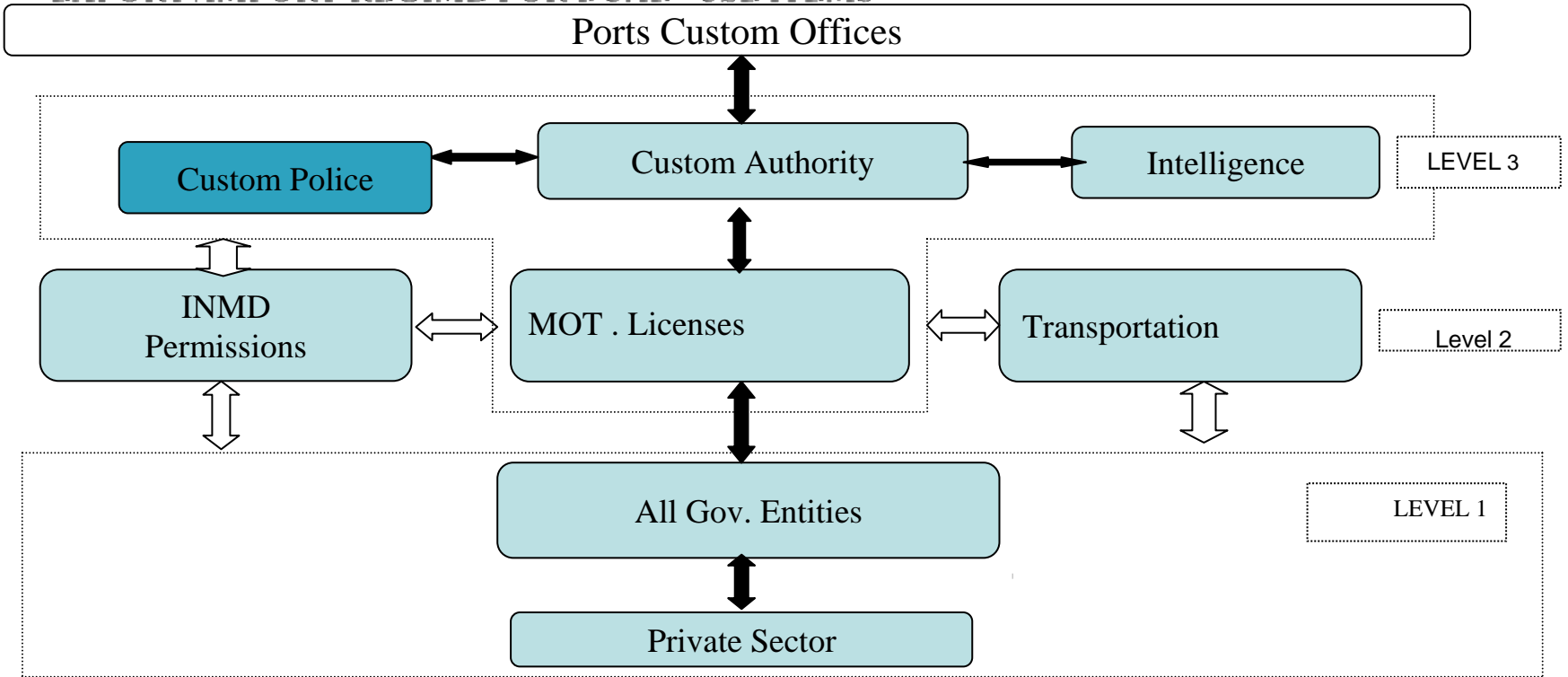
The sample transportation out side the country is carry out recently by depending on WHO.

# Anthrax outbreak in Iraq?

Since 18 of September 2008

- Report of anthrax had been suspected in animals in Duhok Province in northern Iraq in (3) villages in the district of Aqra (28 cattels,23 sheep's and 1mul ) all are died& managed by the state veterinary services

# EXPORT /IMPORT REGIME FOR DUAL -USE ITEMS



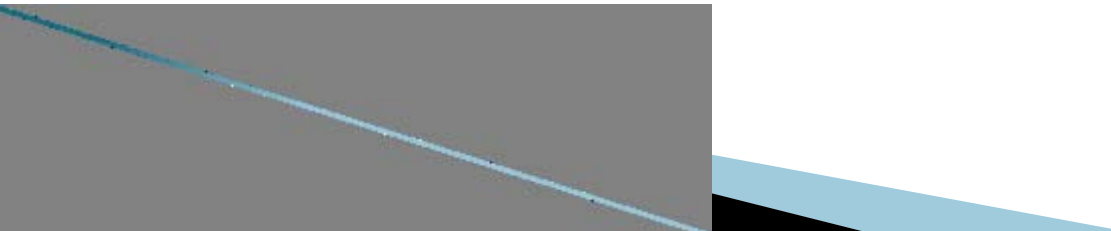
**Relying on Iraqi's role in enhancing the international security through its control of the dual use materials , the General Secretariat for Council of Ministers has approved the export /import regime for dual-use items on 25 April 2010 to increase the efficiency of Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate procedures on the control of the export/import of such items and as follows :**

- ▶ Ministry of Trade is going to fill the dual-use items related formats and send them to Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate for licensing purpose.**
- ▶ After the issuance of an export or import license, Ministry of Trade is going to send copies to the General commission for Customs and, Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate notifying them that these materials are dual-use.**
- ▶ The General commission for Customs will in its turn send the information to the entry points to check the exported or imported items.**
- ▶ Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate will follow up the end user of these dual –use materials, to include them in the declarations required under the relevant treaties and conventions.**
- ▶ Ministry of Transportation will set up explicit regulations on the transfer of chemical, biological and radiological materials and obligating the transporter restricted with safety and security standards.**
- ▶ The security and intelligence devices and customs police are coordinating with the Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate and General commission for Customs to follow up the dual-use material that come inside or outside Iraq illegitimately .**
- ▶ The General Secretariat for Council of Ministers has addressed all the governmental and private sector institutes to follow the regulations that will be issued by Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate.**

**The establishment of export /import regime for dual –use items in Iraq aims to the non- proliferation of WMD and keeps Iraq clean of such weapons to serve the International peace and security.**



# Recommendation

- ▶ The request of Iraq in the this issues at the present time are;
  - ▶ Building capacity in the field of epidemiological investigation.
  - ▶ Building international networking and electronic surveillance.
  - ▶ Technical Supporting to raise the biosafety up to the level (3)
- 



Thank You

Thank You