



Report from TIEMS first Workshop in Iraq



The first TIEMS workshop in Iraq took place in Sulaymaniyah 26th – 27th October 2011, with 315 participants from 15 countries.

Also bi-lateral help organization to Iraq and international NGO's were well represented, like, Doctors without Borders Program in Iraq, AMAR International Charitable Foundation Program in Iraq, Trauma Care Foundation Program in Kurdistan, World Health Organization, International Medical Corps Program in Iraq, Act Alliance through Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, International Committee of the Red Cross program in Iraq and other organizations.

The workshop was opened with welcome speeches from Iraq Vice Minister of Health, Dr Esam Namik, Kurdistan Minister of Health, Dr Tahir Hawrami, DG of Department of Specialized Services (MOSS), Dr Mohammed Shuaib and Sulaymaniyah HD Dr Rekaut Hama Rasheed.

Dr Shakir Katea from MOSS presented an Update of Emergency Medical Services in Iraq and TIEMS President presented TIEMS Vision, Status and Future Plans. The full program can be found at:

<http://www.tiems.info/images/stories/tiems%202011%20iraq%20workshop%20program.pdf>

A group photo of the participants can be found below:



At the closing of the workshop the following Declaration was approved by the participants:

DECLARATION

1. The Iraqi Ministry Of Health [MOH] supports the organizing and hosting of the TIEMS 20th conference in 2013 in Iraq.
2. That there should be Continuing Emphasis and coordination on the role of national and International NGOs and UN agencies working in Iraq addressing training of EMS [Emergency Management Services] first responders.
3. That there should be continued support for Capacity building of EMS, doctors, paramedics and nurses.
4. That there should be continued support and collaboration in providing EMS organizations, doctors, paramedics and nurses with state of art technology and resources for front line response
5. There should be encouragement for the procurement and importing of equipped ambulances with adequate equipment including ventilators & specific stretchers according to different geographical areas and trained paramedics needs.
6. To encourage the higher education medical students to prepare research and analysis about pre-hospital emergency medical services.
7. To encourage coordination & collaboration between MOH, MOI, MOD, & other bodies to share their information relating to disaster & emergency management.
8. To gain benefit of NGO's experience & capacity for developing rehabilitation training and education strategies for emergencies proposed by MOSS of the MOH.
9. Enhance effective early warnings by the implementation and the development of comprehensive and efficient communication systems.
10. To develop Media assistance to educate communities about disaster risk reduction skills
11. To raise the importance for psychological support for disaster victims and front line responders.
12. To encourage permissions and acceptance to train and allow paramedics in using drugs and life support intervention (intubation & chest tube) in pre-hospital EM services.

13. To promote and advocate for the Planning and construction of trauma centers within each governorate in Iraq.
14. To emphasize and promote the standards that all medical students should learn ATLS, ACLS, ALS & BLS before graduating and prior to work placements.
15. To encourage the participation of Iraqi Medics & non medical Emergency Management within the TIEMS network.
16. That there should be invitation and encouragement for participation and deliberate dialogue with all Government Departments and Local Administrations to be inclusive within strategic planning and formation of Policy.

Upon the successful conclusion of the 1st international workshop on Updates in Disaster and Emergency Management in Sulaymaniyah, it is proposed to continue the enthusiasm and momentum of interest and support by holding an internal follow up meeting within two months to commence and initiate the instigation of this declaration.

The workshop ended with a guided tour to the Halabjah Memorial, giving all participants a briefing of what happened in Halabjah the 16th March 1988 when Saddam Hussein regime's gas attacked the Kurdish population.



The Halabjah Memorial

The Halabja poison gas attack also known as Halabja massacre or Bloody Friday was a genocidal massacre against the Kurdish people that took place on March 16, 1988, during the closing days of the Iran–Iraq War, when chemical weapons were used by the Iraqi government forces in the Kurdish town of Halabjah in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The attack killed between 3,200 and 5,000 people, and injured around 7,000 to 10,000 more, most of them civilians; thousands more died of complications, diseases, and birth defects in the years after the attack. The incident, which has been officially defined as an act of genocide against the Kurdish people in Iraq, was and still remains the largest chemical weapons attack directed against a civilian-populated area in history.

(Source of information – The Wikipedia – The free encyclopedia)