Audio conference of the HSC on the latest developments of the Zika virus outbreak

9 February 2016, 09:45 to 11.15 (CET)

Flash report

Meeting objectives

• The European Commission convened an audio meeting of the Health Security Committee (HSC) to discuss the latest developments of the Zika outbreak, the most recent Rapid Risk Assessment (RRA) prepared by the ECDC and a set of technical documents complementary to the RRA prepared by ECDC.

Information about the current situation of the spread of the disease

• ECDC presented the current state about the outbreak in the Americas and in the Caribbean, and regarding cases imported into the European Union.

<u>Coordination of national health measures on the basis of the latest developments prepared by the ECDC</u>

- The HSC discussed the second update of its Rapid Risk Assessment on "Zika virus disease epidemic potential association with microcephaly and Guillain-Barré syndrome" and a set of technical documents complementary to the RRA: on Zika virus disease epidemic: "Information to EU citizens travelling to affected areas", "Interim guidance for health care providers"—and "Disinsection of aircrafts" prepared by the ECDC. A further document, on "Safety of substances of human origin", will be discussed with the national competent authorities.
- No specific points were raised on the RRA. As a conclusion, the *Chair* asked ECDC to revise the documents on travel information and on the interim guidance to health professionals on the basis of the comments of HSC members. The documents will subsequently be endorsed by written procedure and final versions will be translated into all EU languages. The document on disinsection was endorsed by the HSC.

Follow-up actions

• The *Chair* informed the members of the HSC that the next scheduled audiomeeting is planned on 24/02/2016, to discuss AMR and the latest developments on the Zika virus outbreak. In the meantime, the documents will be circulated and endorsed by written procedure as detailed during the meeting.