
Rapid Containment Exercise

Part 2



World Health
Organization

Objectives

- Familiarize participants with operation and conduct of a tabletop exercise, in order to assess roles, responsibilities, and actions of various government agencies.
- An exercise does not have to be expensive to be effective.



Participants

- Divided into breakout groups
 - Public Health Group
 - Finance Group
 - Public Safety/Defense Group
 - Public Affairs/External Relations
 - Transportation/Border Control Group
 - WHO



Scenario Artificialities

- Scenario is fictional, created for exercise purposes only and does not reflect in any nation in any way.
- The countries used in the exercise are fictional.
- Maps provided may not be to scale



Scenario Assumptions

- Antivirals:
 - Strana has a national stockpile of 100,000 courses.
 - Kaneval has a national stockpile of 500,000 courses.
 - Mulgravia has a national stockpile of 1,000,000 courses
- Elbonar, the commercial capital of Mulgravia is connected to Keltas via a high speed ferry line.
- The rivers of Strana provide the provincial boundary lines.
- Laboratories are located in Keltas, Odany and Cilac in Strana and in Xerbo in Kaneval. A WHO reference laboratory is located in Elbonar, Mulgravia.



Exercise map

Included in your handout materials



Country Information

Country profiles for both Strana and Kaneval are in your handout materials.



World Infobook
Kaneval

Introduction

Background: Kaneval is a young nation, having declared independence from Strana in the country has forged a model participatory democracy and a business hub. The capital, Xerbo, is a well known international business hub and a business haven.



World Infobook
Strana

Introduction

Background: Strana was a province of Mulvania from the 12th to 19th centuries, winning complete independence in 1809 in a brief but bloody sea battle in the Strait of Ix.

In 1949, an ethnic enclave on a peninsula in the northwest of the country declared their independence as the Nation of Kaneval. This separation caused bitter rifts in the Strana government, with many advocating a suppression of the breakaway republic. While Kaneval was been recognized as a sovereign nation by Strana in 1963, relations between the two nations remain cool.

Flag:



Geography

Location: Southeastern Asia

Area: 448,540 sq km, roughly the size of Papua, New Guinea

Land boundaries: Strana is connected to the nation of Kaneval by a narrow bridge of land (80km)

Climate: Tropical; hot, humid, rainy; two distinct monsoon seasons - Northeastern monsoon (December to March) and Southwestern monsoon (June to September).

Terrain: Coastal lowlands in the west with extensive beaches facing the Strait of Ix

Western Asia

Area: slightly smaller than Taiwan.

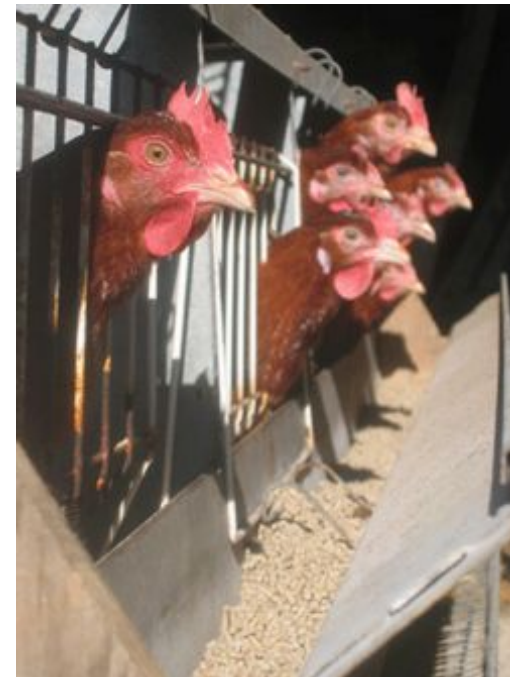
Kaneval is connected to the nation of Strana by a narrow bridge of



Background

- The World Health Organization (WHO) pandemic alert phase is 3 for Avian Influenza Type A(H5N1)
- The virus is endemic in Asian poultry flocks, and has spread in wild birds with outbreaks in poultry in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.
- Most human cases have been concentrated in Asia, however there have been cases in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

No or very limited human-to-human transmission	3
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Scenario 1

- One week ago, local health authorities in Toliarvio province report several patients suffering from a severe respiratory illness in the area near the mountain town of Cilac-vost. Not all of the victims have a history of exposure to birds.
- The area is predominantly muslim, with an agrarian lifestyle considered backward by their closest neighbors, the mostly Christian city of Cilac, located across the lake in Malakry province. Cilac is a center of freshwater fisheries, with significant river traffic to the port of Kinn on the west coast of the island.
- There is a small hospital in Cilac-vost, where the patients have been taken.
- One of the nurses caring for the victims has fallen ill and is now on respirator.
- Samples taken from the infected patients were confirmed influenza H5 and were sent to the reference laboratory in Elbonar, where H5N1 was confirmed in all samples.



Scenario 1- continued

- The Ministry of Health has informed WHO of the infections and requested assistance in an investigation.
- GOARN team members in the area determine that the virus appears to be passing from human to human.
- The president of Kaneval announces that Stranayan nationals may be refused entry to Kaneval at the border and will be subject to extra scrutiny when boarding flights departing from Xerbo.
- The Pandemic Influenza Task Force is convened, and the WHO raises the pandemic alert phase to 5.
- The Mulgravian Minister of Health announces that Mulgravia is to issue advice to its citizens to avoid travel to Strana.



Questions-

- Is this a potential rapid containment situation? Why or Why not?
- How should the government respond to the actions of Kaneval and Mulgravia?
- Will any screening be put in place on travellers leaving Strana?
- What steps will be taken to mitigate possible impact of the outbreak both domestically and internationally?



Scenario 2

- WHO assistance to attempt to contain the outbreak is requested. The members of an international response team are named and can undertake travel immediately, however many team members require visas to enter Strana.
- There is high concern among the public for use of the national antiviral stockpile for the containment effort out of fears that the stockpile will then be unavailable if needed.
- Fisherman in Cilac are afraid to come to work due to the outbreak on the other side of the lake.
- The people of Ost-Cilac are concerned that if they are put under quarantine they will not be able to work, their crops may fail and they may be ruined.



Scenario 2- continued

- The national stockpile is located in Keltas, near the airport.
- The WHO stockpile antivirals will reach Keltas in 48 hours.
- Road transport to Cilac is difficult, with frequent mudslides during the rainy season.
- The closest airport to the area is a military airstrip with access to the Cilac/Cilac-Ost area by river.
- Three of the original patients have died from complications.



Scenario 2- Questions

- **Public Health Group**
 - Given that the WHO stockpile will reach Keltas in 48 hours, but the national stockpile is already there, which stockpile will be used for the containment?
 - How will the drugs be moved from Keltas to Cilac-Ost?
- **Finance Group**
 - What compensation can be offered to the people of Cilac-Ost for damage done to their crops and other lost income?
 - What other costs are expected to come from the containment effort?
- **Public Safety/Defense Group**
 - What role should the group play in the containment?
 - Are there any special security/safety needs for the people of Cilac-Ost?
- **Public Affairs/External Relations**
 - What messages will the government be sending to the nation at this time?
 - What messages will be targeted toward the international community?
- **Transportation/Border Control Group**
 - What will be done regarding the visa situation in order to allow the WHO team to enter the country?
 - How will the drugs and the Rapid Response and Containment team be moved to Cilac-Ost from Keltas?

Evaluation

- Consultation between groups was permitted, how much actually happened?
- Where did different groups of government agree/disagree on response?
- How much did we spend on this exercise?

