

4 September 2023 – Led by the Ministry of Health in Bahrain, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, a 3-day workshop on the first phase of self-evaluation of the second round of the joint external evaluation (JEE), was held in Manama, Bahrain, on 3–5 September 2023.

Under the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005), WHO Member States are required to develop their capacity to rapidly detect, assess, notify, and respond to unusual health events of potential international concern. The IHR Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, developed by the WHO Secretariat, consists of 4 complementary components: one mandatory – the States Parties Annual Report, and 3 voluntary – JEE, after action reviews, and simulation exercises (SimEx).

The JEE is a voluntary, collaborative process to assess a country's capacity in preventing, preparing, and rapidly responding to public health threats whether occurring naturally or due to deliberate or accidental events. It helps countries identify the most critical gaps across 19 technical areas of IHR core capacities to prioritize opportunities for enhanced pandemic preparedness, prevention, and response.

The JEE workshop brought together over 35 multisectoral experts from the Ministries of Health, Foreign Affairs, Industry and Commerce, Municipalities and Agriculture, Interior, Transportation and Telecommunication, primary health care centres, government hospitals, as well as the National Health Regulatory Authority, National Oil and Gas Authority, and Bahrain Airport Services to represent the 19 technical areas of the IHR core capacities.



Dr. Ahmad Al-Hamad, WHO EMRO Representative in Bahrain, with the members of the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) team, Bahrain, 2023.





Related links

- [International Health Regulations](#)
- [Bahrain JEE Report \(2016\)](#)
- [WHO supports Bahrain in health security preparedness: training of trainers simulation exercises](#)

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