World Health Day is an annual celebration that marks the establishment of the World Health Organization on 7 April 1948. Every year, a health issue of public health importance is highlighted in order to raise public awareness about it.

International Health Security is the theme selected this year for World Health Day. The aim is to raise awareness and unify efforts to confront the various threats to health in the world today. Among the health challenges for the Eastern Mediterranean Region are avian influenza, malaria and HIV/AIDS, environmental degradation, conflict and the aftermath of natural disasters.

Governments, international organizations, civil society and the business community are invited to “Invest in health to build a safer future”. Everyone is encouraged to seize the opportunity of World Health Day 2007 and join hands to achieve collective security from disease, protect global health and make the world a more secure environment for humanity.

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