



DIPARTIMENT GHAL SAHHA AMBJENTALI
DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Public Health Regulation Division



Ministry for Social Policy
Department of Health



National Seminar on Health Effects of Climate Change – Raising Awareness and Building Capacity Radisson SAS Baypoint, St.Julians Malta – Thursday 23rd April 2009

Programme

- 08:00 Registration
- 08:30 **Opening address.** Dr.Kenneth Grech, Permanent Secretary for Health, the Elderly & Community Care
- 08:50 **Keynote presentation: Climate Change- relevance to Malta**
Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, Ambassador on Climate Change, Malta; Chair, UNFCCC Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA)
- 09:10 **Health Impacts of Climate Change.** Dr. Bettina Menne, Global Change for Health, World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe
- 09:30 **Malta's Climatology. Trends and anomalies.** Dr. Charles Galdies, Manager, Meteorological Office, Malta International Airport plc.
- 09:50 **Extreme weather events. Reponse to Flooding.** Mr. Patrick Murgo, Deputy Director, Civil Protection Department
- 10:10 **The relationship of ambient temperature and humidity with mortality on the Maltese Islands (1992-2005)** (unpublished study). Dr. Kathleen England, Department for Health Information and Research (Strategy and Sustainability Division)
- 10:30 Plenary discussion
- 10:40 **Coffee break**
- 11:00 **Climate change and water stress.** Dr. John Mangion, Director (Water), Malta Resources Authority
- 11:20 **Ecosystems and Infectious Diseases:**
Possible effects of climate change on vector-borne illness Dr. Gianfranco Spiteri, Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Unit, Department for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (Public Health Regulation Division)
- 11:40 **Possible effects of climate change on food and waterborne illness.** Dr. Anthony Gatt, Infectious Disease Prevention and Control Unit, Department for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (Public Health Regulation Division)
- 12:00 Plenary discussion
- 12:10 **Adaptation:** Adaptation Measures. Dr. Bettina Menne, Global Change for Health, WHO(EURO)
- 12:45 Lunch
- 13:45 **Working groups:** Present situation in the various sectors? What needs to be done? Gaps? The way forward.
Adaptation and early warning systems. **Group I: Flooding and water stress**
Group II: Temperature extremes
Group III: Ecosystems and Infectious Diseases
- 14:30 Presentation of group work by rapporteurs, panel discussion and conclusions
- 15:30 **Closing address.** Hon.Joseph Cassar, MD, MP - Parliamentary Secretary for Health