



REPORT

CBRNe EVENTS IN THE WORLD

FROM 01 TO 31 MAY 2016



Department of
Electronic Engineering



WORLD

Non-proliferation

Event – NATO Deputy Secretary General asks for strengthening the non-proliferation effort.

Status – According to NATO Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Alexander Vershbow, it is essential to cooperate in order to develop an ever stronger and more comprehensive approach to fight against current WMD and CBRN threats.

Source: http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_130629.htm

All data as of: 09/05/2016



Market Forecasting

Event – CBRNe detection equipment market is expected to significantly grow by 2022.

Status – The growth of CBRNe detection system market responds to the current threat from terrorist organizations and growing use of nuclear power and new chemical entities for civilian purposes. According to the latest market report published by Credence Research, the CBRNE detection equipment market was valued at USD 8,523.8 Mn in 2015, and is expected to reach USD 11,972.1 MN by 2022.

Source: <http://www.mobilecomputingtoday.co.uk/3484/chemical-biological-radiological-nuclear-explosives-cbrne-detection-equipment-market-expected-reach-usd-11972-1-2022-credence-research/>

All data as of: 17/05/2016

Mitigation Measures

Event – New research to clean up contaminated soil from any type of chemical weapon.

Status – The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is developing an Agnostic Compact Demilitarization of Chemical Agents (ACDC), which would be able to support cleaning up of contaminated soil from any type of chemical weapon, and to dispose waste materials still available.

Source: <http://www.wired.it/scienza/ecologia/2016/05/17/come-trasformare-armi-chimiche-in-terra-fertile/>

All data as of: 17/05/2016



Counterterrorism

Event – OPCW declares being ready to help states in counter chemical terrorism.

Status – Following the current growing issue related to non-state actors who are likely developing and using chemical weapons, the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Ahmet Üzümcü, outlined that the Organization is orienting its endeavor in supporting Member States to counter chemical weapons threats.

Source: <https://www.opcw.org/news/article/director-general-declares-opcws-readiness-to-help-states-counter-chemical-terrorism/> *All data as of: 26/05/2016*

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N.B. It would be possible to find news referred to local sources.



Yellow Fever

Event – The Yellow Fever outbreak may become the world’s latest global health emergency.

Status – Following that Angola has seen a yellow fever outbreak that has infected nearly 2,000 people and killed 258 people during last months, two Georgetown University professors outlined the extent to which the current outbreak may spread to other countries, and urged the World Health Organization to take emergency steps to prevent it.

Source: <http://www.medicaldaily.com/yellow-fever-global-health-emergency-outbreak-infectious-disease-385252>

All data as of: 09/05/2016

Zika Virus

Event – Last update about Zika Virus spreading.

Status – According to last report by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), indigenous cases of Zika virus have been reported in several counties worldwide, such as Brazil, Colombia, Suriname, Guatemala, El Salvador, Indonesia, Cape Verde, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Venezuela, Honduras, Guyana, Martinique,, Puerto Rico, Guyana, Haiti, Saint Martin, Barbados, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guadeloupe, Dominican Republic, Thailand, Virgin Islands, Nicaragua, Curacao, Jamaica, Costa Rica, the Maldives, Aruba, Bonaire, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent, the Grenadines, Sint Maarten, the Philippines, Cuba, Dominica, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia , Belize, Saint-Barthélemy, Grenada, Peru, and the Pacific Islands.

Source: <http://fidas.it/zikavirusaggiornamenti/>

All data as of: 20/05/2016

Meningococcal Disease

Event – Spreading of an outbreak of Meningococcal disease due to sexual transmission.

Status – A recent study has highlighted several outbreaks of invasive serogroup C meningococcal disease in Germany and France, but also in the United States among men who have sex with men (MSM).

Source: <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0154047>

All data as of: 11/05/2016

Exercise

Event – The U.S., South Korea and Japan hold a joint anti-missile exercises.

Status – Following latest signs that worries over the North Korea nuclear weapons program, the U.S., South Korea and Japan will hold their first joint anti-missile exercises on June to better counter the growing threat from Pyongyang’s regime.

Source: <http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/us-south-korea-and-japan-to-hold-anti-missile-exercise-1.409754>

All data as of: 16/05/2016



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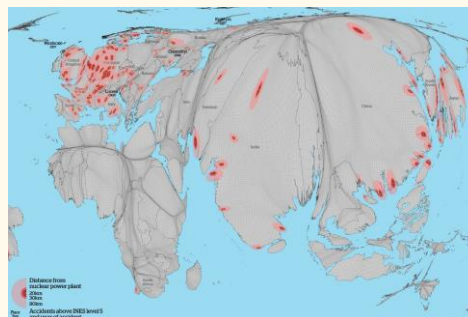
N.B. It would be possible to find news referred to local sources.



Mapping

Event – New map to show world’s nuclear power plants, and nuclear energy future.

Status – According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), there is the risk of a nuclear accident as an event that could lead to significant consequences to people, environment or facilities. The United States is the largest producers of nuclear power with 33.2 percent of the world’s total, followed by France (17.1 percent) and Russia (seven percent) to date.



Source: <http://geographical.co.uk/places/mapping/item/1649-nuclear-power>

All data as of: 14/05/2016



Explosive Trafficking

Event – Very sophisticated devices could circumvent airport controls.

Status – According to the international expert at the Herzliya Counterterrorism Center Ely Karmon, in addition to new technologies of terror, it would be possible that someone might enhance certain hazardous liquids features making potentially dangerous also the only 50 milligrams permitted on the aircraft boarding.

Source: <http://www.quotidiano.net/controlli-in-aeroporto-1.2181298>

All data as of: 21/05/2016

New Technologies

Event – New bomb sniffing drones to fight terrorism.

Status – Researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison took existing technology – used to detect drugs and chemical and nuclear weapons – and miniaturized it in order to make that fitted on drones. This last implementation could be uses for detecting roadside bombs in combat zones as well as to quickly respond to IED and terror threats.

Source: http://i-hls.com/2016/05/drones-can-now-sniff-out-bombs/?mc_cid=595f4841cb&mc_eid=%5bUNIQID%5d

All data as of: 25/05/2016

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AFRICA

Angola

Yellow Fever

Event – Warnings on shortage of Yellow Fever vaccines as a potential global health emergency.

Status – According to the World Health Organization (WHO), six million people have been vaccinated compared to a population of 24.3 million in Angola. 277 people have been already killed in the country due to the mosquito-borne viral disease, which could spread to other continents since the emergency stockpile of vaccines had ran out in April.

Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-36256161>

All data as of: 10/05/2016

Kenya

Cholera and Chikungunya

Event – Simultaneous outbreaks of cholera and Chikungunya hits Kenya.

Status – According to Doctors Without Borders, almost 800 cases of Cholera have been reported in Kenya during last 17 months, including 12 deaths since April. In addition, Kenya's Ministry of Health reported 260 suspected cases of Chikungunya in the northeast, with seven confirmed by laboratory tests.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/content/cholera-Chikungunya-outbreaks-strain-kenyas-medical-services/3349114.html>

All data as of: 27/05/2016

Kenya, Nairobi

Foiled Attack

Event – Potential bio-terror attack foiled by Kenyan authorities.

Status – According to Kenya's police chief, the country's security services have foiled a potentially terror plot by an unnamed East African terror network linked to the Islamic State, which included medical experts that planned to unleash a biological attack in Kenya using anthrax.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/05/04/africa/kenya-foiled-terror-attack/>

All data as of: 04/05/2016

Liberia

Lassa Fever

Event – 38 suspected cases of Lassa fever and 15 death reported.

Status – According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 38 suspected cases of Lassa fever have been reported since the beginning of the year in 6 prefectures, such as Bong (17 cases, including 9 deaths), Nimba (14 cases, including 6 deaths), Gbarpolu (4 cases), Lofa (1 case), Margibi (1 case) and Montserrado (1 case).

Source: <http://www.who.int/csr/don/18-may-2016-lassa-fever-liberia/en/>

<http://www.healio.com/infectious-disease/zoonotic-infections/news/online/%7B7887b9c027-43af-425e-9f45-71b97fc02b86%7D/lassa-fever-outbreak-in-liberia>

All data as of: 20/05/2016



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Malawi, Rumphi

Cholera

Event – Several cases of Cholera hit the country.

Status – According to Health officials in Rumphi, 41 people have been affected by Cholera from just four in few days. No one has died so far from the disease, which has been rapidly brought under control.

Source: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201605160313.html>

All data as of: 15/05/2016

South Africa

Avian Flu

Event – Two more outbreaks of low pathogenic avian influenza on commercial ostrich farms in the country.

Status – Following the last outbreaks of Avian flu that affected two farms, which included a total susceptible population of 1190 ostriches, mitigation measures have been applied to limit the disease spread whom source were unknown to date.

Source: <http://www.thepoultrysite.com/poultrynews/36994/further-bird-flu-outbreaks-in-south-african-ostriches/>

All data as of: 10/05/2016

South Africa, Durban

Klebsiella

Event – Outbreak of the multi-drug resistant “superbug” Klebsiella hits Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital.

Status – 10 babies have been infected with Klebsiella in less than two weeks at the Durban’s Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital’s neonatal ICU.

Source: <https://www.enca.com/south-africa/superbug-infects-10-newborns-in-kzn-da>

All data as of: 01/05/2016

South Sudan

Haemorrhagic Fever

Event – 10 dead and 40 infected from haemorrhagic fever outbreak.

Status – According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a total of 51 suspected cases of haemorrhagic fever, including 10 deaths, had been reported from the counties of Aweil North (45 cases, including 10 deaths) and Aweil West (6 cases).

Source: <http://www.who.int/csr/don/19-may-2016-hf-south-sudan/en/>

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/9/217240/World/International/Ten-dead-from-haemorrhagic-fever-outbreak-in-South.aspx>

All data as of: 20/05/2016





Cameroon, Makary

Foiled Attack

Event – Local self-defense groups foil several suicide attacks.

Status – Some vigilantes have foiled another suicide attack, shooting and killing with a bow and poisoned arrow a stranger who moved toward the local imam shouting that he should pray for peace in the world. In addition, they used a long stick to search him from a distance, detonating the man's explosive vest.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/content/cameroon-vigilantes-foil-suicide-attack/3323250.html>

All data as of: 10/05/2016

Iraq, Daquq

IED

Event – Australian charity worker dies defusing ISIS bomb.

Status – After having already removed 17 IEDs, an Australian man, who was working for landmine clearance organization Swiss Foundation for Mine Action in Daquq, has been killed while trying to defuse a further bomb planted by Islamic State militants in northern Iraq.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/17/australian-charity-worker-killed-defusing-isis-bomb-iraq>

All data as of: 18/05/2016

Iraq, Samawa

VBIED

Event – 32 people killed following ISIS car bomb attack.

Status – The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for two suicide car bombs, which have killed 32 people and wounded 75 others in the center of Samawa. According to police sources, the first blast occurred near a local government building and the second one about 65 yards away at a bus station.

Source: <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-terror/isis-attacks-kill-32-southern-iraq-bombing-turkey-kills-two-n565496>

All data as of: 01/05/2016

Mali

Bomb

Event – 10 U.N. Peacekeepers Killed in bombs attacks this month.

Status – Following the last attack, the number of U.N. peacekeepers killed while on active service in Mali rose to at least 64 since the beginning of the year, making it the most dangerous active deployment for the U.N. in the world.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/content/un-peacekeepers-killed-in-mali-ambush/3351537.html>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mali-security-un-idUSKCN0YA0WC>

All data as of: 30/05/2016



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Nigeria

Event – Rebels destroy a Chevron oil platform.

Status – Nigerian rebels, known as “Niger Delta Avengers,” have attacked the Okan Chevron oil platform offshore at the Niger Delta. Chevron shut-in the attacked platform, and has declared that the incident had affected about 35,000 barrels a day of its crude production.

Source: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/nigeria-attack-shuts-chevron-oil-facility-1462533977>

All data as of: 06/05/2016

Explosion

Event – Explosions rocked oil pipelines in Nigeria’s restive Delta region.

Status – According to a security source, concerns are growing over a revived militant campaign in the area, following a second blast at a facility of the U.S. oil major within a week. Pipelines and other oil and gas facilities have reduced Nigeria’s output by 300,000 barrels a day and closed a major export port and two refineries, following a series of militant attacks occurred in the southern Delta region.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nigeria-oil-blast-idUSKCN0Y42BM>

All data as of: 13/05/2016



Nigeria, Maiduguri

PBIED

Event – At least five people and wounded 19 killed in suicide attack.

Status – According to residents and hospital workers, a suicide bombing at a government compound has killed at least five people and wounded 19 in Maiduguri. The attack looked like the handiwork of Islamist militant group Boko Haram, which has killed thousands of people and displacing 2.1 million in the north of the country for seven years.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nigeria-security-idUSKCN0Y31L8>

All data as of: 12/05/2016

Somalia, Mogadishu

VBIED

Event – Three police officers killed in a car bomb and gun attack on a police station.

Status – According to authorities in Mogadishu, a suicide car bomber and a gunman, who have been shot by police responding to the attack, have attacked a police station in the Somali capital. In addition, three police officers and two civilians died due to the attack claimed by Somalia’s al-Qaeda-aligned Shebab.

Source: <http://www.news24.com/Africa/News/police-civilians-killed-in-mogadishu-attack-20160509>

All data as of: 09/05/2016



Tanzania, Mwanza



Terror Attack

Event – Three people killed in terror attack at mosque.

Status – Around 15 masked assailants carried out a terror attack using improvised explosives, machetes and axes against the worshippers at the Masjid Rahmani mosque in Mwanza. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, which between victims included the imam of the mosque.

Source: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/tanzania-three-killed-terror-attack-masjid-rahmani-mosque-mwanza-1561079>

All data as of: 20/05/2016

ASIA

Syria, Damascus



Sarin

Event – Concerns on possible use of sarin gas in Syria.

Status – According to a senior Israeli official who remained anonymous, the Assad regime would have used sarin gas for the first time since 2013, dropping a sarin-filled bombs on ISIS fighters outside Damascus. Casualties' condition has been reported far heavier than those that would have been inflicted by chlorine gas, leading Israeli analysts to conclude that sarin was used.

Source: http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/212462#.Vz8hR_mLTIU

http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20160518-assads-forces-use-sarin-gas-for-first-time-since-2013-killing-of-1-400-civilians?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+homelandsecuritynewswire%2Frss+%28Homeland+Security+News+Wire%29;

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/world/Syria-accused-of-dropping-sarin-nerve-gas-on-Isil-forces/2016/05/18/article3439093.ece> *All data as of: 18/05/2016*

North Korea



Nuclear Armament

Event – North Korea would use a nuclear bomb only for defense purpose.

Status – According to Kim Jong Un, even though North Korea will strengthen its defensive nuclear weapons capability, the country would not use its growing nuclear arsenal unless others first infringe its sovereignty with nuclear arms.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-congress-idUSKCN0XZ0UX>

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Afghanistan, Nad Ali

VBIED

Event – Car bomb attack near a police training base.

Status – According to an Afghan official, at least three police officers have died after a suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden vehicle in the Nad Ali district police training-center. The Taliban group Qari Yusouf Ahmadi has claimed responsibility for the attack, which have caused also 12 wounded, including two civilians.

Source: <http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2016-05-14/afghan-official-suicide-attack-kills-3-police-in-south>

All data as of: 14/05/2016

Iraq, Baquba

VBIED

Event – A car bomb explodes in the Shifta area of central Baquba.

Status – 10 people died and 35 others have been wounded due to a car bomb attack in a busy area in central Baquba. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the explosion, which has the trademark of previous Islamic State's attacks in the region.

Source: <http://www.khq.com/story/31932200/iraq-officials-suicide-bomb-kills-at-least-13-near-baghdad>

All data as of: 10/05/2016

Iraq, Baghdad

IEDs

Event – Series of terror attacks hit the Iraqi capital.

Status – Twin car bomb attacks targeted some police checkpoints and left at least 30 people dead and 14 police officers wounded a day after a wave of bombings claimed by the Islamic State (IS) extremist group, which have killed 94 people and wounded 165 others as the deadliest violence in the Iraqi capital this year.

Source: <http://www.rferl.org/content/iraq-baghdad-bombings-police-station/27730539.html>

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/94-dead-in-triple-baghdad-car-bombings-claimed-by-isil.aspx?pageID=238&nid=99023&NewsCatID=352>

All data as of: 12/05/2016

Terror Attack

Event – ISIS attack at cooking gas factory.

Status – According to police, 14 people died and at least 27 others were injured in a cooking gas factory coordinated attack launched by at least six suicide bombers. At the same time, three other bomb attacks rocked Baghdad, leaving at least 8 killed and 28 others wounded.

Source: https://www.rt.com/news/343100-iraq-isis-gas-bomb/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=RSS

All data as of: 15/05/2016



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Iraq, Jarayshi

VBIED

Event – Major attack on government forces in the region kills 17 soldiers.

Status – According to an army colonel, some militants killed at least 17 soldiers with suicide truck bombs in Jarayshi, following a wave of IED attacks carried out by the Islamic State group along the country.

Source: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/suicide-attacks-kill-two/2779156.html>

All data as of: 12/05/2016

Iraq, Samawa

VBIED

Event – 33 people killed and 50 more wounded after two car bombs.

Status – According to local security and medical officials, two car bombs exploded with a delay of five minutes very close to each other killing at least 33 people and wounding more than 50 others.

Source: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/two-car-bombs-kill-at/2747458.html>

All data as of: 01/05/2016

Turkey, Diyarbakir

VBIED

Event – Car bomb attack against a police vehicle.

Status – According to the local governor's office, three people were killed and 45 others injured, including 12 police officers after a car bomb targeted a police vehicle. The explosives have been detonated from a distance as the armored police van passed taking under custody some members of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) who may have been targeted for being suspected informants.

Source: https://www.rt.com/news/342503-turkey-diyarbakir-blast-bomb/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=RSS

All data as of: 10/05/2016

Turkey, Gaziantep

VBIED

Event – Two police officers killed after car bomb attack.

Status – At least two police officers have been killed and 23 others have reportedly been injured, including 19 law enforcement officers, after a car bomb exploded near a police headquarters in Gaziantep.

Source: https://www.rt.com/news/341514-gaziantep-turkey-explosion-police/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=RSS

All data as of: 01/05/2016



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Turkey, Istanbul

IED

Event – IED explosion in the Maltepe district of Istanbul.

Status – Four people were wounded after an improvised explosive device (IED) placed under an overpass by unidentified militants had exploded. No group has immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

Source: http://www.janes.com/article/60409/ied-attack-wounds-four-people-in-turkey-s-istanbul?from_rss=1

All data as of: 16/05/2016

Yemen, Al-Qatan

VBIED

Event – Eight people killed after car bomb attack against a military convoy.

Status – According to a security official, a suicide bomber rammed a car laden with explosives into a government military convoy killing eight people, including six soldiers, and wounding 17 others. Islamist militants from Al-Qaeda and the Daesh have repeatedly carried out attacks against Yemeni military and security forces in recent months; however, no one has immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

Source: <http://www.arabnews.com/news/suicide-bomber-strikes-yemen-military-convoy-kills-8>

All data as of: 11/05/2016

Yemen, Mukalla

PBIED

Event – ISIS suicide attacks hit the provincial capital Mukalla.

Status – A suicide bomber detonated himself killing 10 soldiers and wounding 15 others at a naval camp near the port of Khalaf, few days before at least 40 people were killed when a suicide bomber attacked a queue of men waiting to join the Yemeni security forces. The Islamic State has claimed responsibility for both the attacks in Mukalla, which was recently liberated from Al Qaeda.

Source: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/explosion-in-yemen-s-muka/2779208.html>

<http://www.thenational.ae/world/middle-east/suicide-bomber-kills-at-least-40-in-mukalla>

All data as of: 15/05/2016

EUROPE

French, Paris

Stolen Lab

Event – Biochemistry lab burgled at Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital.

Status – Concerns are growing between French authorities since the biochemistry-burgled lab was dedicated to store stem cells and bacteria. Police officers have immediately done inventory with the laboratory responsible in order to determine which kind of samples had been stolen to assess the real threat.

Source: http://www.lexpress.fr/actualite/societe/fait-divers/paris-un-laboratoire-de-biochimie-cambriole-a-l-hopital-de-la-pitie-salpetriere_1796355.html

All data as of: 27/05/2016



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N.B. It would be possible to find news referred to local sources.



Sweden, Stockholm

Leak

Event – 500 people evacuated from a building near the Karolinska Institute following a chemical leak.

Status – According to the police spokesperson Sven-Erik Olsson, there has been a discharge of gas, probably the chemical toluene, started in a laboratory area used by a biochemical company located in the building. 11 people were cared for by ambulance staff after experiencing dizziness and facial numbness due to the exposure to the release.

Source: <http://www.thelocal.se/20160512/evacuation-after-chemical-leak-at-karolinska>

All data as of: 12/05/2016



United Kingdom

Norovirus

Event – Possible norovirus outbreak on a cruise ship.

Status – Health officials investigate the possibility of a norovirus outbreak after hundreds of passengers aboard the Balmoral cruise ship travelling from the UK to the US have fallen ill, including eight member crew. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the ship had increased its cleaning and disinfection procedures, and two CDC health officers and an epidemiologist boarded the ship during its stop in Baltimore, Maryland to verify the safety condition.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/may/09/hundreds-of-uk-cruise-passengers-fall-ill-in-possible-norovirus-outbreak>

All data as of: 09/05/2016

Lyme Disease

Event – Rise in number of cases of Lyme disease in UK.

Status – Following last estimates of around 2,000 to 3,000 new cases of Lyme disease in England and Wales each year, the UK government announced a review of the diagnosis, treatment and transmission of the condition, including new NICE guidelines in order to avoid a delay in future diagnosis.

Source: <http://outbreaknewstoday.com/lyme-disease-in-the-uk-doctors-advised-to-consider-diagnosis-when-suggestive-symptoms-present-95128/>

All data as of: 14/05/2016



Germany, Wolfenbüttel

Nuclear Waste

Event – Growing concerns due to the possible collapse of the Asse mine where radioactive waste materials are stored.

Status – The Asse mine is a former salt mine used as a deep geological repository for radioactive waste in the Asse Mountains of Wolfenbüttel where at least 12,000 liters of water have reached the mine corroding walls and causing some fissures in barrels.

Source: <http://www.greenme.it/informarsi/ambiente/20314-scorie-nucleari-miniera-asse-germania>

All data as of: 19/05/2016



Terrorism

Event – Further growth in stockpiling explosives by European terrorist cells for future attacks.

Status – According to the Head of the European Counter Terrorism Center at Europol, Manuel Navarrete Paniagua, terrorist cells all across the EU, including more than 4,000 foreign fighters, are likely collecting large clandestine stockpiles of explosives to be used eventually in large scale home attacks.

Source: <http://i-hls.com/2016/05/terrorist-stockpiling-explosives-in-europe-europol-official/>

All data as of: 30/05/2016

Sweden, Oskarshamn

Suspicious Object

Event – Suspicious item found at Swedish nuclear plant.

Status – Police were investigating after sniffer dogs, taking part in a joint police and military exercise near a Swedish nuclear power station, found a suspicious object. The building where the parcel was found was cordoned to allow further police investigation since It has not been possible to determine its contents despite x-ray examination.

Source: <http://www.thelocal.se/20160516/suspicious-object-found-at-swedish-nuclear-plant>

All data as of: 16/05/2016

United Kingdom, Liverpool

Bomb Alert

Event – Shopping mall evacuated after a suspicious item was found.

Status – Four police vans and four police cars arrived at the scene, with sniffer dogs after a shopping mall had been evacuated due to a suspicious object was found inside the building. The parcel has been defuse by a bomb disposal robot.

Source: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/john-lewis-liverpool-evacuated-after-8069349>

All data as of: 28/05/2016

LATIN AMERICA

Brazil



Zika Virus

Event – WHO disseminate health advices regarding the Olympics and potential issues related to Zika Virus.

Status – The World health Organization is providing public health advice on ways to further mitigate the risk of contracting Zika virus during the Olympic games. Even though WHO believes that there is no public health justification for postponing or cancelling the games, the Organization will continue to monitor the situation and updating their advice as necessary.

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2016/zika-health-advice-olympics/en/>

All data as of: 28/05/2016

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Cuba

Mitigation Measures

Event – Anti-flu vaccination campaign will involve over 680,000 doses across the country.

Status – Cuba will begin an anti-flu vaccination campaign that aim at preventing serious complications among the population most at risk. This vaccine will protect the population against the A H1N1, H3N2 and Influenza B, said the health authority.

Source: <http://www.theborneopost.com/2016/05/25/cuba-anti-flu-vaccination-campaign-begins-across-the-country/>

All data as of: 25/05/2016

NORTH AMERICA

U.S.

Tick-borne Disease

Event – Tick-borne disease research program.

Status – Following the current tens of thousands of people diagnosed annually with Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases, the Department of Defense (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) has announced \$5 million in funding available to support the recently established Tick-Borne Disease Research Program (TBDRP). The TBDRP is primarily oriented in research focused on understanding the issue and on delivering innovative solutions to prevent and better diagnose and treat their manifestations.

Source: <http://globalbiodefense.com/2016/05/02/tick-borne-disease-research-program-cdmrp/>

All date as of: 02/05/2016



Zika Virus

Event – First commercial test to diagnose Zika virus approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Status – According to Rick L. Pesano, vice president, research and development, Quest Diagnostics, the availability of the new molecular Zika test would provide physicians broad access to a diagnostic tool for managing the Zika outbreak. In addition, Quest Diagnostics plans to offer serological test services assuming FDA authorization of serological test kits for emergency use.

Source: <http://globalbiodefense.com/2016/05/02/first-commercial-zika-virus-test-gets-fda-approval/>

All date as of: 02/05/2016

Safety Violations

Event – Centers for Disease Control labs secretly had permits suspended for serious safety violations.

Status – The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has admitted that some of its own labs have been referred for additional secret federal enforcement actions six times because of serious or repeated violations while working with bioterror pathogens. Names of labs that have been suspended or faced other enforcement actions have been a closely guarded secret.

Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2016/05/10/cdc-lab-secret-sanctions/84163590/>

All data as of: 11/05/2016

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U.S., California

Education

Event – University of California selected as the third facility in the U.S. designated to provide Biosafety & Biocontainment Training Programs to professionals.

Status – According to the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Dr. Howard Federoff, The National Training Center designation from National Institutes of Health further establishes the University of California as a leader in an area of research that is critically important for the public’s health.

Source: <http://globalbiodefense.com/2016/05/05/uc-irvines-bsl-3-lab-designated-national-training-center/>

All data as of: 05/05/2016

U.S.

New Technology

Event – Paper presents a new portable high-resolution gamma-ray imaging detectors to support CBRNE teams.

Status – The new compact high-resolution gamma-ray imagers provide the sensitivity and specificity to assess an intuitive visual map of the radioactive material locations, identities and quantities. Both real-time on-screen information and reach back data transmission this new tool would support CBRNE teams in determining the most effective threat mitigation strategy while minimizing risk to personnel.

Source: <http://cbrn.dfns.net/2016/05/17/radioactive-threat-vision-via-quantitative-gamma-ray-imaging/>

All data as of: 17/05/2016



U.S., Pennsylvania

Nuclear plant

Event – Power failure triggers emergency shutdown at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station nuclear plant.

Status – Following an electrical fault in the facility’s Unit 2 reactor, operators determined the need to bring the unit off-line, and completed the shutdown safely, using established plant procedures.

Source: http://www.pennlive.com/news/2016/05/power_failure_triggers_emergen.html

All data as of: 13/05/2016

U.S., California

Bomb allarm

Event – Bomb threat made against plane at LAX airport.

Status – The Federal Bureau of Investigation, a bomb squad, dozens of police officers and firefighters, along with multiple emergency vehicles reached the Los Angeles International Airport after a phone threat was made about an incoming aircraft. All passengers have been evacuated, while SWAT officers and a sniffer dog got on board to examine the plane.

Source: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/lax-bomb-alert-american-eagle-8041359>

All data as of: 24/05/2016





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OCEANIA



Mosquitos-borne diseases

Event – Mosquitos-borne diseases are still spreading across the country.

Status – Townsville’s Public Health Unit (TPHU) have been working to contain the outbreak after a resident tests positive to Dengue. The Fiji’s Ministry of Health has recorded 332 cases of Dengue fever and 55 cases of Chikungunya in the country from January to date.

Source: <http://www.townsvillebulletin.com.au/news/teams-working-to-contain-outbreak-after-resident-tests-positive-to-dengue/news-story/4c4babb121ecce511f0a40ca394676f8>
<http://fijivillage.com/news/332-dengue-fever-cases-recorded-from-january-this-year-25rsk9/>

All data as of: 30/05/2016

Australia, Queensland

Syphilis

Event – Three newborn babies die due to Syphilis.

Status – Three Aboriginal children have died from congenital syphilis in Queensland, where 167 new cases of congenital syphilis have been diagnosed since 2015.

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3608637/Queensland-syphilis-outbreak-causes-death-three-children-167-infected.html>

All data as of: 25/05/2016

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