ANNEX 9: Checklist for Implementing a PHEOC

In this checklist, 'capabilities' means that all the material and human resources with the required knowledge, skills and abilities are available with the necessary policy authority and procedural instructions.

	PHEOC PLANNING GUIDANCE	
	Legal authority	Comments
1	Legal authority for PHEOC established	
	Government commitment has been secured	
	Public health emergencies are recognised as potential national disasters	
2	The collaboration mechanism between the Ministry of Health and the National Disaster Management Organization, other Ministries, agencies and sectors during public health emergencies has been defined and agreed	
3	Mandate and scope of PHEOC decisions and operations approved by government, partners and stakeholders	
	Policy group	
4	A policy group to provide policy guidance to PHEOC has been established	
	Steering committee	
5	A steering committee of PHEOC stakeholders has been established for the planning and development of PHEOC	
6	Hazards, vulnerabilities and resulting risks have been identified and prioritized	
7	☐ PHEOC objectives have been developed	
	Planning	
8	An all-hazards national public health emergency management plan, addressing priority risks, has been developed and approved	
9	☐ Emergency Response Plan for the health sector is in place.	
10	Response plans detail roles and responsibilities for MoH and other response agencies, sectors and jurisdiction at various levels in the response organization, including private sector and NGO organizations.	
11	Response plans describe scaled levels of response with resource requirements for each level and procedures for acquiring additional resources	
12	Response plans detail the notification, reporting, engagement and coordination requirements	
13	Response plans contain information about laboratories including:	
	Contact information	
	Types, e.g. biosecurity level, locations, business hours, contact information and links to MoH surveillance systems	
	Types of specimens or samples tested	
	Types of testing provided	
	Standard Operating Procedures for collection, packaging, shipping and maintaining chain of custody of specimens and samples.	

14	Response Plans contain verified location, contact and emergency response information for:	
	Hospitals, clinics and treatment centres	
	☐ Points of entry	
	Pharmacies	
	☐ NGO's in-country	
	☐ Public health units	
	☐ Social services offices	
	Shelters	
	Partner Government agencies	
	☐ IHR Focal Point and WHO IHR contact point	
	Other subnational PHEOCs or National coordination centre	
15	Response plans provide SOPs for coordinating with law enforcement and national security agencies.	
	IMPLEMENTING A PHEOC	
16	A clear operational structure based on the IMS and comprising (i) Management, (ii) Operations, (iii) Planning, (iv) Logistics and (v) Finance and Administration functions is in place	
	Staff, trained in emergency response management and mission-critical public health activities and objectives, are available to fill key PHEOC roles at all times	
	A roster of incident managers is maintained	
	☐ The PHEOC facility manager has been appointed	
	☐ The information manager has been appointed	
17	The PHEOC has the capability to:	
	prepare public health alerts	
	conduct web surveillance to detect and correct of rumours, public and interest group concerns and media misinformation	
18	Infrastructure, personnel and procedures are in place sufficient to support IHR (2005) notification requirements (surveillance, detection, reporting, IHR focal point)	
	☐ The PHEOC has the capability to produce and share a common operational picture	
19	The PHEOC has the capability to direct and support logistical operations for the acquisition, storage, transportation and delivery of PPE, medical equip- ment, pharmaceuticals, laboratory supplies and medical countermeasure supplies for public health emergency responses in country	
20	The PHEOC has the capability to provide logistical and operational support for team(s) and protect the health and safety of deployed teams	
21	Administrative policy has been formulated to support emergency contracting, hiring, procurement and management of donor funds.	

	CORE COMPONENTS OF A PHEOC	
	Plans and procedures	
22	☐ PHEOC plans (EOC plan and CONOPS) have been approved	
23	The PHEOC plan/handbook for staff includes:	
	☐ A concept of operations	
	☐ Map of the PHEOC workstations, rooms and inventories of equipment	
	Routine staffing requirements	
	Standard operating procedures	
	Forms and templates for data collection, reporting, briefing etc	
	Documentation and records management processes	
	Role descriptions and job aids for PHEOC functional positions	
	Response levels and thresholds	
	Activation, scaling, deactivation thresholds and procedures	
	Contact information for key officials and PHEOC personnel	
	Notification and communication protocols with host agency, response organizations and partner agencies.	
24	 Procedures and equipment are in place to establish and maintain communications between the IHR Focal Point and WHO Regional and Headquarters offices 	
25	Where relevant, hazard-specific response annexes have been developed to address chemical, infectious disease, radiological or food and water safety threats.	
26	 Procedures in place for credentialing and permitting access for health professionals from other jurisdictions to operate in-country 	
27	The PHEOC has a Business Continuity Plan (Continuity of Operations Plan) which includes:	
	☐ Priority functions that need to be maintained	
	☐ Key personnel that are needed to implement the plan	
	☐ Alternative/backup PHEOC site(s) and relocation plans	
	Records and data management procedures	
	☐ Processes for maintaining critical external communications	
	Activation, notification and deactivation procedures	
28	The PHEOC has a communications plan for emergency public information and warning that outlines:	
	☐ Triggers for issuing information to general public or specific audiences	
	Message templates for priority threats	
	Roles and responsibilities for communications staff	
	Procedures for developing and approving new messages	
	 Procedures for issuing risk communications using traditional media, official social media accounts and agency website posting. 	
	☐ Process for developing linguistically and culturally appropriate messages.	
	Approval authorities for external messages.	

29	 Deactivation and demobilization plans describe procedures for notification, closing procedures, debriefings, records management, restoring and repatriat- ing staff and supplies to pre-incident levels or to regular roles. 	
	Physical infrastructure	
30	A PHEOC suitable facility is available	
	A multi-use facility can be converted in one hour to an adequate operational PHEOC	
	A suitable facility has been acquired but not yet developed as an operational PHEOC	
31	The PHEOC meets requirements for accessibility, security, structural integrity and resistance to natural and human generated hazards.	
	The PHEOC has adequate space for the all expected PHEOC functions, private meetings, surge staff, secure communications, IT equipment and support personnel	
	The PHEOC has audiovisual functionality to project operational, contextual and event status information, tested and maintained	
32	The PHEOC has:	
	sufficient potable water supply and adequate water to address sanitary requirements	
	structural maintenance, janitorial and waste removal services	
	toilet and sanitary facilities scaled for the expected occupancy	
	approved quantity of first aid supplies	
	an approved fire suppression system and/or equipment	
	a staff evacuation plan	
	security measures to control access	
	a backup site that can be activated if the primary site becomes untenable	
	Information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure	
33	The PHEOC has sufficient computer workstations with necessary application software loaded and tested.	
34	 PHEOC servers and backups, with needed applications are maintained and routinely tested 	
35	The PHEOC has sufficient tested telephonic and/ or interoperable radio communications for every workstation and meeting space, with spares.	
36	There is tested web or video conferencing equipment in a private meeting space.	
37	There are sufficient printers, copiers, fax machines and scanners are maintained and functional.	
38	There is sufficient quantity of electricity including backup capacity (generator and fuel, UPS for critical data storage and processing)	
39	The facility has an HVAC system sufficient to maintain comfort for occupants and keep IT equipment cool.	

	Information systems and data standards	
40	The PHEOC has the capability to receive, analyse, display, report and share reports of reportable and unusual diseases and health conditions from:	
	public and private sector healthcare providers and facilities	
	sub-national offices and units	
	veterinary and animal health sources	
	points of entry	
	□ NGOs	
	Other national governments and international agencies	
	Other arms and branches of government and Community based sources	
41	☐ The PHEOC has the capability to collect, process and share field epidemiological and other investigational data (including (i) receiving, aggregating and analyzing field data, and (ii) visualization of epidemiological information and timely preparation of reports in standardized format for decision making and sharing with partners)	
42	The PHEOC is linked to a national surveillance information structure for monitoring and responding to priority risks.	
43	The PHEOC has the capability to:	
	receive and share public health laboratory data related to outbreaks and events	
	receive, produce and share integrated surveillance information containing epidemiological findings and laboratory results at individual and aggregated levels	
	 provide data analytic support for other events of public health interest (eg: mass gatherings) 	
	produce geospatial information such as maps and other visualizations from common operational datasets	
	ascertain the status and report key external partner/resource information such as hospital bed availability, treatment centres, laboratories etc.	
	monitor the status and needs of deployed field teams and other responder personnel including assisting international support and NGOs	
	 display contextual operational information such as population distribution, administrative and political boundaries, transportation infrastructure, hydrology and elevations 	
44	☐ The PHEOC datasets include identification of information necessary to develop a common operational picture for priority risks	
45	 The PHEOC can access, display and track status information regarding af- fected persons and vulnerable populations 	
46	☐ The PHEOC has the capability to monitor and account for all resources utilized in a response	
47	The PHEOC has the capability to track and display the status of tasks and objectives	
48	☐ Staff filling IMS functional roles are trained to use relevant software	

	Human Resources	
49	☐ The PHEOC has designated non-emergency staffing to manage the facility	
50	Technical personnel are available for the operation, maintenance and repair of audio-visual, telecommunications and computer equipment.	
51	☐ There are personnel trained in emergency management and PHEOC standard operating procedures	
52	☐ There is sufficient trained staff to activate the PHEOC on short notice	
53	The PHEOC has the capability to identify and contact a roster of trained personnel, equipment and supplies for deployment to field sites responders (e.g. rapid response teams)	
	TRAINING AND EXERCISES	
54	The PHEOC has a dedicated training program based on a training needs assessment for incident management personnel that addresses staff roles during response operations; utilization of communications and data processing equipment and software; and hazard-specific response knowledge.	
55	The PHEOC has a comprehensive, progressive exercise program for all staff and partners, national and NGO agencies and produces evaluation reports that identify corrective actions required.	
	MONITORING AND EVALUATION	
56	The PHEOC training and exercise programs are primary components of a performance monitoring and evaluation system focused on continuous improvement of public health emergency management capability and effectiveness.	
	COSTING, FUNDING AND SUSTAINING A PHEOC	
57	☐ The PHEOC plan includes an itemised schedule of costs	
58	☐ There is funding plan and funding mechanism to support the PHEOC	
59	Funds are available to develop and sustain the PHEOC	

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