

### **WHO allocates USD 5 mn to combat the coronavirus outbreak in the Middle East**

World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Dr. Richard Bernan said that there is no evidence that the novel coronavirus was created in a lab as part of a biological war, adding that the organization is still studying the virus characteristics as well as how it spreads. Bernan explained that WHO allocated USD 675 million to combat the coronavirus outbreak worldwide, including USD 3 million for the Eastern Mediterranean region. Research institutions have made significant progress in developing a vaccine for coronavirus and it should be ready within 12 to 18 months.