

21 June 2011



Executive summary

1. Background

The 15th meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to review progress with implementation of the work programme and to update on recent developments. The applications for membership received since the last meeting were also assessed, and one pending membership was discussed further. The results of an evaluation and membership survey were presented and discussed. In addition, an update on first preparations of the 7th annual meeting and 3rd HEPA Europe conference in October 2011 was provided.

The meeting was attended by 6 members of the Steering Committee from 6 countries and WHO staff from the Regional Office for Europe and from Headquarters. The meeting was kindly hosted and supported by the National Institute of Public Health and the Ministry of Health of Slovenia. It was chaired by Willem van Mechelen from the Free University (VU) Medical Center and assisted by the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Rome office, and the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of the University of Zurich, Switzerland.

2. Evaluation of applications for membership

The two new applications received since the last meeting were supported by the participants; one pending application from the 13th meeting was discussed further but required further assessments for a final decision. All supported applicants will become temporary members and will be proposed to the network for confirmation at the 7th annual meeting on 13 October 2011 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

3. Update on recent, relevant activities and developments

Updates were given on the ongoing activities at the international level, including:

- activities of the WHO
- activities of the EU
- other international activities

4. Selected activities of the work 2009/2010 programme

Besides the general update on progress with the current work programme, one of the activities was discussed in more detail, namely the results of a member and evaluation survey, contributing to the development of a communication strategy for HEPA Europe.

5. Annual meetings of HEPA Europe

An update on first preparations of 3rd conference and 7th annual meeting of HEPA Europe in October 2011 was given. In particular, a programme outline and ideas for key note speakers were discussed. The call for abstracts for the conference will open in May 2011, co-sponsorship by WHO is being sought.

6. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee

The participants decided to establish a sub-committee to develop a recruitment strategy for the Steering Committee, in view of the likely need to replace retiring members at the next annual meeting.

The Committee will reconvene by teleconference on 9 June 2011. The 16th meeting will take place on 7 September (noon) to 8 September (afternoon) 2011 in Gerlev, Denmark. The Committee will also meet informally in advance of the annual meeting on 10 October late afternoon in Amsterdam.

Annex: List of participants

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Professor Finn Berggren
Gerlev Physical Education and Sports Academy
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Technical Officer
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Ms Francesca Racioppi
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