

26 July 2012



Executive summary

1. Background

The 18th meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to review further progress with implementation of the 2011/2012 work programme and to update on relevant international developments. In addition, the applications for membership received since the last meeting were assessed and two pending applications were further discussed, in connection with WHO's ongoing assessment of partnership initiatives such as HEPA Europe. An update on preparations of the 8th annual meeting and symposium in September 2012 in Cardiff was also given. In addition, the sub-committees on membership development and on Steering Committee candidates reported, and the development of communication strategy for HEPA Europe was continued.

The meeting was attended by five members of the Steering Committee and two WHO staff from the Regional Office for Europe as well as one observer. The meeting was kindly hosted and supported by the Free University (VU), Amsterdam, the Netherlands. It was chaired by Willem van Mechelen from the VU Medical Center, and assisted by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Governance and Multisectoral Partnerships Department, and the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of the University of Zurich, Switzerland.

2. Evaluation of applications for membership

The new application received since the last meeting was supported by the participants; of the six applications from the last meeting requiring further assessments, three were also supported, two will be offered the status of observes and one requires further information for a final decision. The supported applicants will become temporary members and will be proposed to the network for confirmation at the 8th annual meeting on 27 September in Cardiff, United Kingdom.

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. Work programme 2011/2012

Participants took note of the update on the state of affairs on the implementation of the work programme 2011/2012. A preliminary draft of the activity report 2011/2012 was discussed, as well as an outlook on the next work programme 2012/2013, which will be presented at the annual meeting in September.

5. Annual meetings of HEPA Europe

An update on the 8th annual meeting 2012 was given, including the results of the call for abstracts. The meeting will be hosted by the Physical Activity & Nutrition Network (PANNW) for Wales, Public Health Wales, United Kingdom, in Cardiff. In addition, a decision was taken on the host of the 2013 annual meeting and the draft call for hosts for the 2014 meeting was finalized.

6. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee

A sub-committee on membership was formed to agree on develop a basis for a general strategy on how to approach questions around applications for membership.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will take place on 15 June, kindly hosted by VU Medical Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. An informal meeting will take place on 25 September 2012 afternoon in Cardiff, United Kingdom.

List of participants

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