



## Executive summary

### 1. Background

The 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to review the further implementation of the work programme and to update on recent developments. In addition, the applications for membership received since April 2009 were preliminarily assessed and the discussion on management and interaction with partners and members was finalized, including adoptions of current arrangements of the Steering Committee with regard to the chairperson succession. Preparations of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in November 2009 were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by 7 members of the Steering Committee from 7 countries and one observer (see Annex). It was kindly hosted and supported by the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM) of the University of Zurich, Switzerland. It was chaired by Brian Martin from the ISPM and assisted by the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Rome office.

### 2. Management and interaction with partners and members and future arrangements for the Steering Committee

The first part of the meeting was dedicated to follow-up the development of a strategy for a more proactive management and interaction with partners, started at the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee. The discussion included the planned designation process for a WHO Collaborating Centre on Physical Activity and Health at the University of Zurich and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH, under the lead of Brian Martin, and in collaboration with the Federal Offices for Sport and for Public Health as well as other national institutions. As part of its terms of reference and work plan, the Centre could take up a supportive role for HEPA Europe, in close coordination and cooperation with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The next steps and presentation of the proposed way forward to be presented to the Network at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on 11-12 November in Bologna were discussed and endorsed.

As announced at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in September 2008, Brian Martin will step down as chairman of HEPA Europe. With Willem van Mechelen, Free University Medical Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, who attended this meeting as observer, a candidate for chairman was identified who will be proposed to the Network for election at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of HEPA Europe. New work arrangements for the Steering committee to provide stronger support to the chairman's work were also developed.

A member of the Steering Committee has left his position at the Dutch Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and will therefore not run for re-election. Two expressions of interests for membership in the

Steering Committee were received from his successor and from another candidate from the United Kingdom. They were discussed and will be proposed to the Network for election at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. WHO headquarters will be invited to send an observer.

## **2. Evaluation of applications for membership**

11 new applications were assessed by the participants. The final assessment of all applications received by the end of September 2009 will be done during a follow-up phone conference in October 2009. All supported applicants will then become temporary members and will be proposed to the network for confirmation at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on 12 November 2009 in Bologna.

## **3. Annual meetings of HEPA Europe**

The preparations of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, hosted by the Public Health Service of the Emilia Romagna Region on 11-12 November 2009, were finalized. The meeting will include a half-day symposium on "Perceptions of the urban environment and physical activity", meetings of four HEPA Europe working groups and the annual meeting of HEPA Europe members.

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, to take place on 26 November 2010, will be hosted by the Faculty of Physical Culture at Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic. Back-to-back, the 2<sup>nd</sup> HEPA Europe conference will be organized on 24-25 November, in association with the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Movement and Health. The main focus will be on the relation between physical activity and the physical, transport, social and cultural environment under the title "Health-enhancing physical activity in the 21st century: Environmental and social influences and approaches". A preliminary programme and meeting website were discussed.

The received expressions of interest to host the 2011 annual meeting were discussed. Further information will be requested from the applicants, and a decision will be made in October 2009.

## **4. Update on recent, relevant activities and developments**

A written update was given on the ongoing activities at the international level, including:

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

## **5. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee**

A follow-up phone call to finalize the preparations of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be arranged in October 2009 to finalize the discussion of the activity report and the new work programme. An informal work meeting of the Steering Committee will take place on 10 November 2009 late afternoon in Bologna, in advance of the annual meeting.

The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee will take place in April 2010 in Rome, Italy.

## **Annex: List of participants**

Professor Winfried Banzer  
Member of the Advisory Board for the Development of Sport - Policy of Preventions and Health Management  
German Olympics Sports Confederation (DOSB)  
Frankfurt/Main, Germany

Dr Brian Martin  
Physical Activity and Health Work Unit  
Institute for Social- und Preventive Medicine of the University of Zurich  
Zurich, Switzerland

Prof Jean-Michel Oppert  
European Association for the Study of Obesity EASO  
Université Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris6  
Paris, France

Dr Harry Rutter  
National Obesity Observatory  
Oxford, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Mr Michael Sjostrom  
Dept of Biosciences and Nutrition  
Karolinska Institute  
Huddinge, Sweden

Dr Radim Šlachta  
Faculty of Physical Culture  
Palacky University  
Olomouc, Czech Republic

Prof Willem van Mechelen  
Dept. of Public and Occupational Health, VU University Medical Center  
Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Prof Tommi Vasankari  
UKK Institute for Health Promotion Research  
Tampere, Finland

### **World Health Organization**

#### **Regional Office for Europe**

Dr Sonja Kahlmeier  
Technical Officer, Transport and Health  
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