



Executive summary

1. Background

The 11th meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to review the implementation of the 2008/2009 work programme and to update on recent developments. In addition, the discussion on management and interaction with members and partners were continued and preparations of the 5th annual meeting in November 2009 were discussed. Also, the applications for membership received from January to March 2009 were assessed and decided upon.

The meeting was attended by 7 members of the Steering Committee (see Annex). It was chaired by Brian Martin from the Swiss Federal Office of Sport (BASPO) and hosted and assisted by the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Rome office.

2. Management and interaction with partners and members

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 and members, started at the last meeting. The discussion was kicked off by summarizing the previous discussion. Participants discussed the proposal to start the designation process in view of the possible establishment of a new WHO Collaborating Centre on Physical Activity and Health. Such a Centre might be established 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 the management of HEPA Europe, by hosting its secretariat in close coordination and cooperation with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. An initial discussion took place on the possible implications of such a centre with regard to HEPA Europe. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

2. Evaluation of applications for membership

2 new applications were assessed and supported by the Steering Committee. The applicants will become temporary members and will be proposed to the network for confirmation at the next annual meeting.

3. Annual meetings of HEPA Europe

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

The 6th 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 2nd HEPA Europe conference will be organized on 24-25 November, in association with the 6th 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.

The call for expressions of interest to host the 2011 annual meeting was finalized.

4. Update on recent, relevant activities and developments

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

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

Participants also debriefed on past meetings and conferences attended and informed on forthcoming meetings and events.

6. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee

The members of the working group on Steering Committee arrangements met again in advance of the Steering Committee meeting. Changes to the Terms of Reference were discussed, including the selection and election procedure of the chairperson and reviewing the distribution of roles and work among the members of the Committee. Until the next meeting, the final version of changes in the Terms of Reference will be prepared, to be submitted to the network at the annual meeting. As informed at the 4th annual meeting, the current chairman, Brian Martin, will step down at the 5th annual meeting. The working group informed that Willem van Mechelen, Free University Medical School, Amsterdam, has agreed to be proposed as candidate for chairmanship of HEPA Europe. Professor van Mechelen will be proposed by the Steering Committee for election at the annual meeting of HEPA Europe.

The 11th meeting of the Steering Committee will take place on 16-17 September 2009 in Zurich, Switzerland.

Annex: List of participants

Professor Winfried Banzer
Member, Advisory Board for the Development of Sport - Policy of Preventions and Health Management
German Olympics Sports Confederation
Germany

Professor Finn Berggren
Gerlev Physical Education and Sports Academy
Denmark

Mr Eddy Engelsman
Ambassador Physical Activity and Health
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
Netherlands

Dr Brian Martin
Chair
The European Network for the Promotion of Health - Enhancing Physical Activity HEPA Europe
Federal Office of Sports
Switzerland

Dr Harry Rutter
Director, National Obesity Observatory, England
United Kingdom

Dr Radim Slachta
Vice dean, Assistant, Faculty of Physical Culture
Palacky University
Czech Republic

Professor Tommi Vasankuri
Director, UKK Institute for health promotion research
Finland

World Health Organization

Regional Office for Europe

Dr Sonja Kahlmeier
Technical Officer
Noncommunicable Diseases and Environment Unit

Ms Francesca Racioppi
Noncommunicable Diseases and Environment Unit
Acting Head of Office
European Centre for Environment and Health

