



Executive summary

1. Background

The 9th meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to finalize the impact model for HEPA Europe. The impact model served as basis for the discussion of the draft activity report 2007/2008 and the draft work programme 2008/2009. In addition, applications for membership received from March to May 2008 were assessed and decided upon.

The meeting was attended by 9 members of the Steering Committee from 8 countries (see Annex). It was chaired by Brian Martin from the Swiss Federal Office of Sport (BASPO), kindly hosted by Université Pierre et Marie Curie-Paris6 (UPMC), Pitié-Salpêtrière Hôpital, Paris, and assisted by the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Rome office.

1. Development of an impact model for HEPA Europe

At the 4th meeting of the Steering Committee (21 November 2006, Magglingen, Switzerland), the Steering Committee started the development of an implementation strategy based on an “impact model” for HEPA Europe. At further work sessions, answers to the following questions had been developed: 1) Which are the main causes that prevent better health as a result of physical activity among all people in Europe?; 2) How can these causes be addressed/solved? 3) Do the current activities contribute to the solutions identified earlier?; 4) What effect do the current activities have on the identified causes?; and 5) Why will changing the identified causes solve the problem of lack of physical activity in Europe? Are there additional causes to be taken into account or, if possible, to be addressed?

At the current meeting, a half day work session was dedicated to finalizing the impact model. The work focused on formulating the hypothesis of the impact model explaining why the activities of HEPA Europe will contribute to reaching its aims and objectives. Conclusions and implications for further activities were discussed. On this basis, the Steering Committee also developed 4 more consistent objectives for HEPA Europe which are grounded on the conclusions of the impact model. These suggestions will be presented and discussed at the 4th annual meeting of HEPA Europe on 10 September 2008.

2. Evaluation of applications for membership

The 13 applications received since the last meeting were discussed and accepted by the Steering Committee. They will be proposed to the network for confirmation at the 4th annual meeting in September 2008.

3. 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 and
- other international activities

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

4. Preparation of the 1st annual conference and 4th annual meeting (8-10 September 2008, Glasgow)

The event, including a 2-day scientific conference and a one day annual meeting, will be hosted by SPARColl (Scottish Physical Activity Research Collaboration) in association with the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow.

The final draft preliminary programme of the 1st annual conference was discussed. The preliminary programme of the 4th annual meeting of HEPA Europe, which will take place on 10 September morning back to back with the conference, was finalized. In preparation of the annual meeting, the main background documents were discussed and finalized, namely the drafts of the activity report 2007/2008 and of the work programme 2008/2009. The conclusions of the work on the impact model were taken into consideration in the development of the draft of the next work programme.

5. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee

Mari Mietinnen, Ministry of Health of Finland, informed that she will have to step down as member of the Steering Committee due to other commitments. The chairman and the participants warmly thanked her for her service and support over the last years. Pekka Oja indicated his preparedness to step down as member of the Steering committee; all participants invited him to continue serving and he will make a final decision until the 4th annual meeting. All other participating members of the Steering Committee confirmed their availability to serve one more year; the chairman will contact all other members prior to the annual meeting to confirm their availability.

Ideas for hosts of the 5th annual meeting of HEPA Europe in 2009 and a possible 2nd conference were discussed.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will take place before the end of 2008, venue and date to be decided.

Annex: List of participants

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