



*With this newsletter we would like to give you updated information about the WHO Health in Prisons Project (HIPP) and its activities. If you want some information to be included in our next newsletter, please do not hesitate to let us know.*

### Developments WHO Regional Office for Europe

On 1 February 2010, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab started in her new position as Regional Director of the WHO Regional Office for Europe. She succeeded Dr Marc Danzon, who retired from his position as Regional Director after 10 years. Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab previously worked as the Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

The starting of a new Regional Director marks the beginning of a new period for the Office. During the coming months decisions about priorities, including a new organigram for the office will be made.

### New website

In May 2010 the WHO Regional Office for Europe will launch its new website. The structure and contents of the current website will change, according to revisions done during the last months. This also applies to the HIPP website.

On the new HIPP website, more attention will for instance be given to country activities and examples of national best practises. In case you would like to include a short text on a national initiative on prison health on our website, you are welcome to submit it to us for consideration.

### After the Madrid Conference...

During 29-31 October 2009, the International Conference on Prison Health Protection took place in Madrid, Spain. The main outcome of the conference is the Madrid Recommendation, recognizing the urgent need for a set of measures, programmes and guidelines aiming to prevent and control major communicable diseases in prison. The Madrid Recommendation will be published jointly by all conference organizing organizations. It is expected that the Recommendation will be launched during a side-event of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, taking place during 17-21 May 2010 in Vienna, Austria. After that, the Madrid Recommendation will be used as a set of guiding principles to develop and strengthen prison health in Europe as well as in other regions of the world.

Another outcome of the conference is the report 'WHO recommendations on the Prevention of Overdose deaths upon release', which will be launched during the Connections Conference, taking place in London, UK during 24-25 June 2010 ([www.connectionsproject.eu](http://www.connectionsproject.eu)).

### Network Meeting for Prison and Health 2010

In autumn 2010 HIPP will organize a 2-day network meeting for the members of the network for prison and health. Unlike other years, the network meeting will this year not be followed by a WHO conference on a specific prison health topic. Therefore, the network meeting 2010 will be 2 full days and there will be more opportunity than in previous years to discuss important prison health topics and national best practices. Please let us know your suggestions and input for the network meeting! The network meeting is organized for our members and aims to cover all issues that you would like to discuss.

The dates and host country of the HIPP network meeting 2010 will be announced shortly.



### WHO Framework for the Assessment of Prison Health

HIPP has drafted a project pan for the development of a framework for prison health assessments. It will concern a large scale project with the involvement of many partner organizations and Member States. Duration of the project will be at least 3 years, including the testing of indicators and assessment methods in 3 pilot countries and the dissemination of the framework (incl. guidance) throughout the WHO European Region.

Currently HIPP is finalizing the project plan, including the exact project structure, and looking into possible donors to be able to carry out the activities. In a few months, a first expert group meeting will be organized to start the development of the framework.

The aim of the prison health assessment framework is to obtain a clear overview of the health of prisoners in its broadest sense and the health services available to them, making use of a standardized toolkit that allows for consistency in the data collected between prisons, countries and over time and assuring quality and increased influence of the assessment.





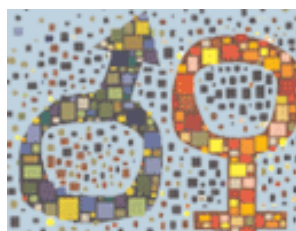
### The work on women's health in prison

In April 2009, the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime launched the Declaration on Women's health in Prison. The Declaration with accompanying background paper is the main outcome of a conference on women's health in prison that took place in November 2008 in Kiev, Ukraine.

After the launch of the Declaration, HIPP has continued its activities in the area of women's health in prison. It has attended several side-events, conferences and expert meetings related to the topic and increased the international recognition for women prisoners' health needs and the current shortcoming in the health care provided to them.

An important initiative in this regard, under leadership of UNODC and the Government of Thailand, is the development of UN rules specific to the treatment of women in detention and in custodial and non-custodial settings, consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures. HIPP participated in the open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting during 23-26 November 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand to discuss a draft of the Rules. The Rules are aimed to strengthen international norms for the treatment of women prisoners, which encompass their health, gender sensitivity and child care. They will be submitted to the 12th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in April 2010 in Salvador, Brazil and after that, the Rules will be submitted to the 65th General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2010 in New York for final approval.

After the launch of the Declaration on Women's health in Prison, HIPP initiated the development of practical checklists and guidance notes on women's health in prison. There are 3 checklists: 1. aimed at Ministers and policy makers, 2. aimed at prison governors and senior prison management and 3. aimed at prison health staff. The checklists are currently developed in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. They are expected to be published later this year.



### BCA's 2010-2011

During the biennium 2010-2011 there are country agreements with activities on prison health in the following Member States: Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and the UN registered province of Kosovo. Most of the activities will be related to an evaluation of the national prison health system and drug dependency treatments. Initial assessment missions to Republic of Moldova, Serbia, UN registered province of Kosovo will take place during 2010. The activities in Kyrgyzstan will be a continuation of activities started last year including the evaluation of a pilot project on methadone maintenance therapy in prisons and police custody.

### Prison Health Database

Recently the WHO Prison Health Database had been closed down for construction. It is currently unclear what will be the future of the database. This will depend on resources and the possibility of integrating the data collection and monitoring task in the development of the framework for prison health assessments.

### Announcements of upcoming events...

During the coming months, HIPP will participate (present abstract, facilitate workshop or organize session) in the following international events:

- International Harm Reduction Conference 2010, 25-29 April 2010, Liverpool, England
- Side-event on the Madrid Recommendation during the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 17-21 May 2010, Vienna, Austria
- Conference on Stimulant Abuse Treatment—Treatment platform of the Pompidou Group, Council of Europe, 10-12 May 2010, Strasbourg, France
- CONNECTIONS European Conference: Drugs, alcohol and Criminal Justice Ethics, Effectiveness and Economics of Interventions, 23-25 June 2010, London, England
- XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2010), 18-23 July 2010, Vienna, Austria.



### Contact HIPP:

In case you have any questions or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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