

HEPA Europe

European network for the promotion of Health-Enhancing Physical Activity



22 August 2016

Executive summary

1. Background and overview

This meeting of the Steering Committee of HEPA Europe was convened to review progress with implementation of the new work programme 2016/2017 and to update on relevant international developments. Applications for membership were discussed. An update on progress with preparations of the 12th annual meeting and 7th conference in September 2016 in Belfast and initial steps on the events in 2017 was also given. The meeting was preceded by a brainstorming session on strategic directions of the network.

The meeting was kindly hosted by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, and chaired by Tommi Vasankari, UKK Institute for Health Promotion Research, Finland. 11 members of the Steering Committee attended in person and two members via phone conference connection, as well as two WHO staff from the Regional Office for Europe. The meeting was kindly prepared and assisted by the Epidemiology, Biostatics and Prevention Institute (EBPI), University of Zurich, Switzerland.

2. Evaluation of applications for membership

Six new applications received since the last meeting were assessed and accepted. The decision on one pending application had to be deferred and on three new applications, additional information will be sought.

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 2016/2017 and funding

Participants took note of the update on the state of affairs on the implementation of the work programme. They also agreed next steps regarding the funding for HEPA Europe.

5. Annual meetings of HEPA Europe

An update on preparations of the 12th annual meeting and 7th conference to take place on 28-30 September 2016, Belfast, United Kingdom, was given. The meeting will be hosted by the Queen's University Belfast and the University of Ulster, Centre of Excellence for Public Health, Northern Ireland. Co-sponsorship of the conference by the WHO Regional Office for Europe has been granted. The dates for the 2017 annual meeting and conference were also confirmed (15-17 November 2017), to be kindly hosted by the University of Zagreb, Croatia.

6. Other business and next meetings of the Steering Committee

The next phone conference of the Steering Committee will take place on 8 September 2016. The Steering Committee will also hold an informal meeting within the framework of the HEPA Europe annual meeting and conference in Belfast. The next meeting will take place on Monday 13 February 2017 in Helsinki.

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List of participants

Winfried Banzer

Olympics Sports Confederation University of Frankfurt Sports Medicine Germany

Olov Belander

Norwegian Directorate of Health Department Of Environmental Health Norway

Finn Berggren

Gerlev Sports Academy Slagelse Denmark

Sonja Kahlmeier

University of Zurich Switzerland

Bengt Kayser

University of Lausanne Switzerland

Willem van Mechelen

VU University Medical Center Amsterdamm, The Netherlands

Karen Milton

University of Oxford United Kingdom

Marie Murphy

University of Ulster Northern Ireland United Kingdom

Tommi Vasankari

UKK Institute for Health Promotion Research Tampere Finland

Anne Vuillemin

University of Lorraine Villers-lès-Nancy France

Wanda Wendel-Vos

National Institute for Public Health and the Environment
Bilthoven
The Netherlands

Participating part of the meeting via WebEx connection:

Andrea Backovic Jurican

Ministry of Health Ljubljana Slovenia

Narcis Gusi

Extremadura University Spain

WHO Secretariat

Francesca Racioppi

Senior Policy and Programme Adviser Environment and Health Governance and Partnerships

Joao Breda

Programme Manager Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Non-communicable Diseases and Health Promotion

Invited guest / HEPA Europe fellow

Charlie Foster

Senior Researcher
British Heart Foundation Health
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