

Mainstreaming "Health at Work" strategy into the new European Health Policy of WHO

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First TG OSH Meeting of NDPHS, Vilnius 22-23 March 2011

Development of the European Health Policy, Health 2020



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Vision: WHO Regional Office for Europe

- **is an effective champion of public health issues and opportunities;**
- **seriously addresses inequalities and social determinants of health**, appealing to and engaging with a wide range of sectors and stakeholders at all levels;
- **unites and integrates** the Region, acting as a bridge between the different parts of the Region and promoting the principle of solidarity;
- **works in close partnership with others**, including: Member States and their institutions, WHO/HQ and other regions, UN and other international agencies, EU institutions, the European public health advocacy and research community, NGOs, and the private sector;
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New European Health Policy, Health 2020

Our vision is for a WHO European Region where all people are enabled and supported in achieving their full health potential and well-being and in which WHO Member States, individually and jointly, work towards reducing inequalities in health within the region and beyond

Health 2020 process

- Governing body – Regional Committee and SCRC
- Conceptual and process development
- Evidence gathering and commissioning of studies
- Consultation process (formal, informal, virtual), High Level Officials, international and country stakeholders and key constituencies and communications
- Country partners
- Key events
- First draft to be presented at RC 2011
- Launch of final Health2020 and accompanying documents on evidence and tools at RC 2012

Building blocks : Health2020 structure

- Drivers and context: Making the case for the big shift
– The key issues and influences that will shape health policy and systems in the future
- Health2020 – Vision, Values, Principles, Targets, Policy Framework
- Leadership and Governance for Health, Whole Government Approach, Working at all levels
- Addressing the Public Health Challenges
- Addressing Health Inequalities
- Strengthening health and public health services
- Making it happen: processes, instruments

Questions to TG OSH

- Does “Health at Work” strategy fit with H2020?
- Why?
- How?
 - Vision, Values, Principles, Targets, Policy
- Can the activities of NDPHS & BSN integrated into H2020?

PUBLIC HEALTH **Strengthening Framework for Actions**

European Action Framework for Strengthening Public Health Capacities and Services

- **Complementary to Health 2020, more action oriented**
- **Purpose:**
 - Reposition public health high on the political agenda of Ministries of Health
 - Renew emphasis on developing public health services, capacities and functions, and ensure adequately trained human resources
 - Step-up investment in prevention
 - Support the European Member States to further streamline, upgrade and strengthen the individual and population-based public health services of their health systems
- **Make a clear statement on the relationship between public health, essential public health operations, and health systems**
- **Establish a framework for action**

Public health

“Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts of society”

Sir Donald Acheson, 1988

Health System

The ensemble of all public and private organizations, institutions and resources mandated to improve or restore health. Health systems encompass both personal and population services, as well as activities to influence the policies and actions of other sectors to address the social, environmental and economic determinants of health

Tallinn Charter, 2008

Strengthening public health through Essential Public Health Operations (EPHOs)

1. surveillance and assessment of the population's health and wellbeing;
2. identification of health problems and health hazards in the community;
3. health protection services;
4. preparedness for and planning of public health emergencies;
5. disease prevention services;
6. health promotion;
7. evaluation of quality and effectiveness of personal and community health services;
8. assurance of a competent public health and health care workforce;
9. leadership, governance and the initiation, development and planning of public health policy;
10. health-related research.

Questions to TG OSH

- Can we merge “Health at Work” strategy into EPHOs?
- EPHOs and OHS
- OH in public health service vs. healthcare service
- Public funding vs. employer funding of OHS: when and how?
- EPHO and BOHS for vulnerable groups?

European Review of Social Determinants of Health and Health Divide

Task groups

1. Early years, education and family
2. Work, working conditions and unemployment
3. Disadvantaged and excluded groups
4. Gross domestic product, tax, income and welfare
5. Sustainability and community
6. Prevention and treatment of ill health
7. Gender
8. Older people

Five cross-cutting task groups

1. Economics
2. Delivery systems and mechanisms
3. Global factors
4. Equity, equality and human rights
5. Measurement/targets

Questions to TG OSH

- Do we have sufficient evidence for effectiveness of OH interventions?
- Concept of “Occupational Health” of unemployed people?
- Integration of OHS into PHC
- Different solutions for different problems?
 - Old EU-15
 - New EU-12
 - SEE and EECCA

Challenges and opportunities

Argument for mainstreaming

“Health at Work” strategy:

- Dealing with 50% of population
- Main social determinant of health
- Main cause of health inequality
- One of basic human rights
- Essential Public Health Operations (EPHO)
- Mandated by international instruments
- Social and economic benefits

Conclusions

H2020 initiative of WHO/Europe provides challenges and opportunities

Policy options for occupational health for all:

- OHS and EPHOs
- BOHS and integration of OH into PHC
- OHS capacity building
- Narrowing occupational health inequality
- Positioning “Health at Work” in Governance for health by “Health in All Policies” approach

Thank you for your attention.



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