

Date: 08 August 2008

**EG on SIHLWA
Sixth Meeting
(in connection with the NDPHS Joint Expert Group Meeting)
Oslo, Norway
30 September – 1 October 2008**



Northern Dimension
Partnership in Public Health
and Social Well-being
www.ndphs.org

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND CARE SERVICES, NORWAY

To: NDPHS SIHLWA Expert Group members

**Subject: Invitation to the 6th Meeting of the NDPHS SIHLWA Expert Group
("Social Inclusion, Healthy Lifestyles & Work Ability")
Oslo, Norway 30 September – 1 October 2008**

Meeting venue: Holmenkollen Park Hotel Rica
(Tel.: +47-22-922000, Fax: +47-22-146192)

Dear Colleagues,

The Ministry of Health and Care Services of Norway has the honour to invite members of the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Wellbeing to nominate their representatives to the 6th meeting of the Expert Group "**Social Inclusion, Healthy Lifestyles and Work Ability**" (SIHLWA) to be held in Oslo 30 September – 1 October 2008. Scope and purpose of the meeting, provisional program and on-line registration form are available on http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,sihlwa_6_oslo . **The registration (and hotel reservation) should take place no later than August 27, 2008.**

The invitation is also sent to previously nominated members of the SIHLWA Expert Group, and temporary advisers and observers who previously have attended.

Following the practice adopted by the NDPHS, the members and participants are expected to cover their own travel¹ and accommodation. The organizers will provide meals and refreshments during the meeting.

The meeting starts on Tuesday 30 September at 9:00 and closes on Wednesday at 17:00.

SIHLWA sub-Group (ADO, ALC and OSH) Chairpersons and Co-Chairpersons are reminded of the separate meeting for them and EG International Technical Advisors (ITAs) starting on Monday 29 September at 11 o'clock at the same place.

The meeting will focus on strategic implementation of Expert Group's activities as indicated in the SIHLWA-6 Scope & Purpose and provisional program of the meeting available on the website. The Oslo meeting is the first time when all NDPHS Expert Groups are invited to have their meetings at the same time in the same place, as is indicated in the invitation letter dated 7th July 2008, signed by Ms Toril Roscher-Nielsen, Director General of the, Ministry of

¹ Should an interested partner/candidate have serious financial constraints for participation, the organizers would kindly invite you to contact the SIHLWA Coordinator Mikko Vienonen as soon as possible and discuss the problem in detail (m.vienonen@kolumbus.fi, Tel. mobile: +358-05-4421 877).

Health and Care Services, Norway, and available in:
www.ndphs.org/?register.mtgs.eg_chairs_&_itas_7_oslo .

The purpose is to meet and to get a better picture of the Partnership as a whole, to learn from each other's experiences, and to discuss ongoing and future activities. It is also foreseen that experts will explore possibilities and commitment for collaboration on crosscutting themes in order to achieve further cross-fertilization and strengthening of collaboration. These goals are reflected in the SIHLWA-6 Scope and Purpose and programme.

The Expert Group SIHLWA consists of three subgroups:

- Subgroup on Adolescent health and socially-rewarding lifestyles
- Subgroup on Alcohol
- Workplace health and safety

Members of the partnership are kindly asked to nominate participants to each subgroup **no later than August 27, 2008** using the on-line registration form

Partner Countries and Partner Organizations have been invited to nominate their members/representatives to each SIHLWA sub-group². See in the SIHLWA-6 Scope & Purpose document the latest update of nominations³ attached. Nominees should represent high level experts in health and social sector administration, research community, or NGO sector in the field of each sub-group sector respectively. Should the nominated SIHLWA sub-group representative not be able to attend, an alternate member/representative can be nominated. Each member/representative should ideally have 2 alternates, who would work as a team keeping each other informed of activities and meetings. This would enhance continuity and strengthen the Expert Group.

In addition to the officially nominated Partner-Country / Partner-Organization representatives for each sub-group, other "ad hoc" experts (observers) can also participate in the meeting as judged feasible by SIHLWA Coordinator, sub-group Chairpersons and the host country. Information about ad hoc participants (observers) would be provided to Partner Countries/ Partner Organizations prior to the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

<p>Ms. Vibeke R. Gundersen Senior Adviser Division for International Cooperation and Preparedness Ministry of Health and Care Services P.O. Box 8011 Dep, N-0030 Oslo, NORWAY Phone: +47 22 24 87 73 Fax: +47 22 24 95 77 e-mail: vrg@hod.dep.no</p>	<p>Dr. Mikko Vienonen e-mail: m.vienonen@kolumbus.fi Coordinator of EG SIHLWA/ NDPHS Sysimiehenkuja 1, 00670 Helsinki, Finland Tel. mobile: +358-50-4421877</p>
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Meeting background documentation to be found on
http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs.sihlwa_6_oslo .

² However, sending representatives for one or two sub-groups only is also possible.

³ Please note that all NDPHS member countries and organizations have not yet given their nominations previously. Therefore this is also an opportunity to review and update the nomination(s).