



Northern Dimension
Partnership in Public Health
and Social Well-being
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Partnership Annual Conference (PAC)

18 November 2005, Stockholm, Sweden

Conclusions by the Chair

The Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being held its Annual Conference (PAC) on 18 November 2005 in Stockholm, Sweden. Mr. Morgan Johansson, Minister of Public Health and Social Services of Sweden, chaired the Conference. Ministers of Health and/or Social Affairs and other high representatives of Partners and guests from countries not Partners to the Partnership, notably Italy and Portugal, took part in the meeting.

The PAC held a discussion on the theme of the health and well-being of young people. It was based on introductions of UNICEF Sweden and WHO/EURO. Experiences and ideas were exchanged. The CSR was invited to study further the new ideas for the development of the co-operation under the Partnership.

The PAC welcomed the results of the first meeting of the new Expert Group concerning cooperation in these areas, focusing at social inclusion, healthy lifestyles and work ability, and looked forward to follow its work.

The PAC also welcomed the offer of co-operation and sharing of experiences and best practise between the North and the South, expressed by the guests from Italy and Portugal.

The PAC endorsed the Partnership Co-ordinating and Financing Mechanism/Voluntary Fund, which is a mechanism through which Partners will make decisions on funding or other contributions and which at the same time stimulates Partners and Participants to formulate their needs in the fields of public Health and social well-being, in accordance with national plans. The main elements in this

mechanism is a Partnership Website and Database with a project pipeline, an appropriations account, and, when circumstances so permit, a Voluntary Fund, administered by an International Financing Institution (IFI). An Action plan adopted by the CSR presents the prioritised actions that the CSR wants to promote for financing. The Partnership Expert Groups contribute with their expertise in elaborating programmes and projects. All interested actors, also non-Partners, are invited to present contributions to this mechanism.

Contributions were presented to the appropriations account, to the implementation of the Action Plan and in other forms of support to the further development of the Partnership. These contributions will enable considerable progress and new prospects for the Partnership to reach its goals. The CSR was invited to make efforts to find financing for the remaining items of the Action Plan.

The PAC adopted a progress report of the CSR and a Partnership Work Programme for 2006 and 2007. It furthermore adopted reports from Partnership Expert Groups and other Partnership bodies as well as reports from the international bodies Partners to the Partnership.

The PAC invited the CSR to analyse further the results of a questionnaire concerning Partners' experiences of the first years of the Partnership and come back with recommendations to the next PAC.

The PAC elected Lithuania to serve as Chair and Norway to serve as Co-Chair for the next two years.