

**OSH EG 8th Meeting  
Helsinki, Finland  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

<b>Title</b>	DRAFT Minutes from the 8 <sup>th</sup> OSH EG meeting
<b>Submitted by</b>	ITA in coordination with the chair
<b>Summary / Note</b>	the OSH EG meeting was held jointly with <i>the Better prevention, identification and reporting of work-related and occupational diseases and emerging risks</i> project group
<b>Requested action</b>	Comments

## **Project meeting**

### **1. Welcome and opening of the meeting**

The project leader Dick Spreeuwers from the “Better prevention, identification and reporting of work-related and occupational diseases and emerging risks” project opened the meeting and welcomed all participants.

Dick Spreeuwers chaired the first part of the meeting and did also the detailed minutes of the first part.

The participants introduced themselves. The task Manager from the EU Delegation of Russia was prevented from coming.

### **2. General information on the project**

The project *Better prevention, identification and reporting of work-related and occupational diseases and emerging risks* is funded by EU delegation from Russia. The project lasts two years and has five project meetings. This one was the first meeting. The project consists of the project leader and ten rapporteurs from Belarus, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia and Sweden.

Judit Erdos EUROPE Ltd gave Information on the contractual arrangement of the project.

### **3. Goals, Methods and Planning of the Project**

Dick Spreeuwers went through project’s goals, methods and outputs. The definitions of terms produced a lively discussion. Terms must be defined clearly and because the project language is English, rapporteurs are responsible of translation and clarifying terms onto their own languages.

### **4. Questionnaire: presentation and discussion**

The project group members discussed widely about the questionnaire:

- items of the inventory,
- the lists of occupational diseases; what diseases should be included,
- the ILO list, which cover mainly chemicals
- how to include MSD and psychosocial disorders

It was also discussed that this project is more process oriented, not a list of occupational or work-related diseases. The aim is evaluate and estimate occupational and work-related diseases and emerging risk.

The group members decided:

- Rapporteurs will describe the reporting systems of occupational and work-related diseases in their country.
  - legal context
  - good or successful practices
  - disadvantages
  - ER tools for discovery of ER
  - registers for OD, WRD and ER
  - case definitions (OD,WRD,ER) used in the region, in the register characteristics
  - reporting methodology
  - reporting behaviour, barriers for reporting, incentives
  - denominator information
- Dick Spreeuwiers will do the first draft version of questionnaire

It was noted that the project will actually do an inventory, rather than a questionnaire.

## EG OSH meeting

The OSH EG chair Wiking Husberg chaired the second part of the meeting.

## 5. Information from NDPHS EG & ITA meeting in Gdansk 24.2

Wiking Husberg told news from 22nd Meeting of the EG Chairs and ITAs 24 February 2017, Gdansk, Poland. He noted mainly the following themes:

- The NDPHS secretariat suggested that all expert groups will review and update of the relevant elements of the Action Plan if needed. The group's inputs would focus on the achievement of the objectives and results within their individual remit and cover the period up to the end of 2020. The Secretariat suggested that the groups would submit their first drafts already to the autumn CSR meeting for first review and preliminary comments. OSH EG supported the proposal but informed that its next meeting will be in the end of September and so its input might come too late for the CSR meeting.
- The OSH EG presented in the meeting that the group would like to apply for the flagship status for the group's individual projects done under the same theme. The secretariat responded that flagship program allow for clustering projects/initiatives closely belonging to the same group and the approach proposed by the OSH EG was in line with idea. Wiking Husberg and Päivi Hämäläinen will take the contact to the secretariat.
- Alcohol and substance abuse expert group presented the suggestion to achieve a better cross-disciplinary cooperation between experts groups. OSH EG sees that occupational safety and health issues can be linked easily in the most of EG's focus and support the ASA idea. The ASA EG promised to arrange a dinner before the coming CSR meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April to continue discussing the ASA EG idea and suggestion. Päivi Hämäläinen and Riitta Sauni will participate into the working meeting.
- The secretariat will arrange the training on project development and implementation as part of the Interreg BSR co-funded project PA Health Support 2. The training lasts two days and is planned to be next August/September. Secretariat will cover travel, accommodation and catering costs for up to 20 participants. The training focuses on persons who really plan and write the projects applications. The secretariat will also try to stream the training over the internet.

- Wiking Husberg informed the NDPHS secretariat and EGs chair and ITA about the upcoming Finnish chairmanship of the Arctic Council and project on developing an Arctic OSH Knowledge Network ANOHS. He also distributed a new Arctic OHS newsletter.

All information and the minutes of meeting can be found from NDPHS web page [http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs.eg\\_chairs\\_&\\_itas\\_22\\_gdansk](http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs.eg_chairs_&_itas_22_gdansk)

## **6. Briefing on eventual COST project**

Dr. Timo Leino from FIOH told about the current situation of the project engaging the OSH institutes and labour inspection in the Baltic Sea countries to develop evidence based policies and innovative methodologies to ensure more integrated national systems of identifying, reporting and recording of occupational injuries and work-related diseases, and developing and disseminating successful preventive operational models and training of occupational health staff and decision makers. The project was done in parallel with the OSH EG Better prevention - project.

Timo Leino suggested that as the Better prevention - project got funding is better to wait for research results from it and plan for a new project together with the on-going project. The participants of the meeting accepted the suggestion.

## **7. Quality standards of OH-specialists' training**

Dr. Eda Merisalu from the Estonian University of Life Sciences presented the background for the *Quality standards of OHS specialists' training* project and its current situation.

Eda Merisalu and Claude Loiselle from ILO will brainstorm in Tartu 8<sup>th</sup> March. Timo Leino will join to the meeting via Skype. They will identify and define in broad terms what a BSN / NDPHS development cooperation project in relation to OSH knowledge and information could potentially look like.

## **8. Arctic OSH knowledge network**

Hannu Rintamäki from FIOH gave a presentation concerning the Arctic Network on Occupational Health and Safety ANOHS. ANOHS is a new network for occupational health and safety issues in the arctic region and supported by the OSH EG. ANOHS is coordinated by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the preparatory phase is funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and FIOH. The general aims of ANOHS are to promote OSH in Arctic working places and to facilitate and support collaboration between research institutes and companies.

## **9. Upcoming BSN meeting in St P 28-30.9.2017**

Dr. Nina Rubtsova from the Department Institute of Occupational Health Russia gave information on the coming 23<sup>rd</sup> BSN annual meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and the XIV Occupation and Health Congress in St. Petersburg on 26-29 September 2017.

The congress consists of plenary sessions, symposiums, round tables etc. The abstract can be submitted for 23 main topics until 1<sup>st</sup> July. The early-bird fee is from February to April 115 euros.

Nina Rubtsova reminded that participants attending the BSN meeting have to register using BSN own registration link. Participation in 23<sup>rd</sup> BSN Annual meeting is without payment.

If participants will attend also the congress they have to register separately both to the congress and the BSN Annual meeting.

The congress organisers will submit all the documents needed for VISA for the participants roughly 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Organisers need scanned a picture of the passport and the filled application form. Please, see appendix concerning congress and BSN meeting from the NDPHS webpage [http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs\\_osh\\_8\\_helsinki](http://www.ndphs.org/?mtgs_osh_8_helsinki) and from congress webpage <http://www.congress.niimt.ru/eng/balt-reg-safe-meet/>

Nina Rubtsova presented also the coming Minsk International scientific and practical conference “Modern issues of health and safety at the workplace” 1-3 June 2017 in Minsk Belarus. The organizers are Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus, Republic Center of Occupational Safety and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus, FSBSI “Research Institute of Occupational Health” (RF), Occupational Health Physician and Specialists Association (RF). Contact person is RYBINA Tatiana, ([tanya-rybimna@list.ru](mailto:tanya-rybimna@list.ru)), Head of occupational risks management and occupational health protection department of the National center of labour protection of the Ministry of labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus. More information can be found at <http://rcot.by/sovremennie-voprosi-zdorovya-i-bezopasnosti-na-rabochem-meste>

#### **10. EG OSH progress report 2016 and work plan 2017**

Wiking Husberg went shortly through the OSH EG progress report 2016 and work plan 2017 as the main themes were already discussed during the meeting. Both documents were submitted before meeting.

#### **11. Closing of the meeting**

Wiking Husberg closed the meeting at 16:45.