



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

Ministry of Health
Lithuania

Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
Sweden

March 17, 2008

Invitation to a Seminar on Primary Health Care development in the Northern Dimension countries

It is our great pleasure and honour to invite you to a Seminar on Primary Health Care (PHC) development in the Northern Dimension countries. The seminar is jointly organised by the Lithuanian Ministry of Health, the Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, in its capacity as the Lead Partner of the NDPHS Primary Health Care Expert Group, and the WHO Regional Office for Europe and will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 23 May 2008.

It is especially addressed to health policymakers, health managers and health professionals and is held within the framework of the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being (NDPHS). The mission of the NDPHS is to promote sustainable development of the Northern Dimension area by improving peoples' health and social well-being. The Partnership aims to contribute to this process by intensifying cooperation, assisting in capacity building, and by enhancing coordination between international activities within the Northern Dimension area.

It is our ambition to organise an event that will offer interesting presentations as well as a forum for discussion among the above mentioned groups of professionals. Several distinguished speakers, among them Professor Barbara Starfield of the Johns Hopkins University, USA, will address a variety of issues of critical importance to Primary Health Care, such as:

- The role of PHC in a modern society;
- PHC as a key component of a cost-effective and equitable health system;
- Common problems in the PHC development, and possible future trends;

- Roles and dynamics of PHC and Family Medicine when meeting tomorrow's health challenges in Europe.

Another highlight of the Seminar will be a presentation of an extensive report on the status and prospects of Primary Health Care in the Northern Dimension area developed by the NDPHS PHC Expert Group.

We sincerely hope that the delivered presentations will spark lively and interesting discussion about future prospects and modalities of PHC in the Northern Dimension countries!

As regards modalities of the Seminar, these are included in the attached practical information for participants. A detailed programme as well as all other meeting documents will be systematically posted on the NDPHS website at www.ndphs.org/?mtgs,seminar_on_phc and sent to the registered participants.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Vilnius!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Romalda Baranauskiene
Secretary of
Ministry of Health
Republic of Lithuania



Mr Fredrik Lennartsson
Deputy Director General
Ministry of Health and
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