



**FLASH REPORT OF FIRST SCOPING MEETING FOR THE
JOINT ACTION ON HEALTH INFORMATION TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE EU HEALTH
INFORMATION SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS COUNTRY KNOWLEDGE (16TH FEB 2017)**

The first scoping meeting of the *Joint Action on Health Information towards a sustainable EU health information system that supports country knowledge, health research and policy-making* has been held on 16th February 2017, with the participation of 16 EU/EEA Member States¹, WHO, Eurostat, and CHAFAE. The purpose of the meeting was to identify the general direction and broad aims of the Joint Action and to agree on the next steps towards developing the Work Packages and preparing the application. Belgium expressed interest to lead the Joint Action, which was unopposed by Member States.

The brainstorming session to scope out the objectives started by reviewing Member State comments received regarding the ERIC preparations at the recent Working Party on Public Health at Senior Level meeting. The Group acknowledged the need for better governance of health information generation, the need to better align health information with policy priorities, and to reduce duplications and unnecessary data collection burden on Member States. To address these requirements, the Group provisionally identified a set of work areas for Joint Action:

1. Mapping currently produced health indicators to policy priorities and agreeing on criteria to identify duplications and gaps in the data coverage (in collaboration with WHO and OECD)
2. Prioritising health information generation activities (and networks).
3. Mapping capacity and building capacity where needed
4. Improving the coverage and robustness of health indicators in high priority areas
5. Producing health indicators more cost-effectively using electronic / administrative data
6. Finalising the blueprint for a sustainable EU Health Information System building on 1-5

We have also outlined our proposal on electronic health record linkages that we put forward for the CNECT-SANTE DigiCare taskforce to be part of the Joint Action. No major objections were received by participants, and Italy informally indicated interest to further develop and lead that topic.

A number of Member States² signalled their intention to participate in and/or lead specific work areas, while others would confirm in writing on the basis of the further developed Work Packages. In the next two weeks, all Member States will be invited to further refine and complement the set of proposed work areas and express their intention to participate and/or to lead those. The written procedure would then be followed up by at least two face-to-face meetings to prepare the applications.

¹ BE, CY, CZ, FI, FR, DE, GR, IR, IT, LU, MT, NL, SI, SE, UK, NO

² DE, NL, SI, IT, FR, CZ, NO, MT, FI, GR, BE