



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Health systems, medical products and innovation
Performance of national health systems

Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health (2019-2022)

4th plenary meeting

23 September 2020

14:00-17:00h CET

WebEx

Draft Minutes

The fourth plenary meeting of the Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health (term of office 2019-2022) took place on 23 September 2020 via WebEx. The meeting, which was a non-public meeting, was chaired by the Panel's Chair, Professor Jan De Maeseneer.

1. Welcome and introduction

The agenda was approved without changes, the minutes of the previous plenary meeting of 24 June were approved earlier in writing and have been published on the Expert Panel dedicated website.

No conflicts of interest were raised on matters on the agenda.

2. Opinion on the organisation of resilient health and social care following the Covid-19 pandemic

Chair thanked rapporteurs and all members for their work on the opinion which is already a very comprehensive draft.

COM also thanked the members for their work on the opinion. COM encouraged the Panel to keep a limited number of concise and clear recommendations.

The rapporteurs gave an overview of the main elements added in the current draft and how specific sections of the opinion have been expanded.

In the introductory part A, the new framework based on existing frameworks that identify the key elements of health system resilience was presented that shows the health systems inputs, outputs and outcomes as well as the effects of the shocks. Under part B on capacity building and part C on vulnerable groups and impact of the crisis on them, members discussed mainly minor changes to ensure consistency of all parts and agreed to add more specific examples

from different Member States. It was stressed again that the capacity of the health system should integrate the societal and economic impact of the crisis.

Under part D on the resilience of health systems and resilience-test for unpredictable high-pressure scenarios, members discussed how the tests could be developed and stressed the importance of practical value of the results and how to communicate them at multiple levels. Members agreed to clarify the set of quantitative and qualitative indicators used in the opinion, as well as elaborate on the value of using a traffic light dashboard.

Members formulated and agreed on the recommendations, including general policy related ones followed by specific recommendations focused on, among others, strategies against disinformation, addressing inequity in health, strengthening primary care and mental health systems, creating networks of learning communities. Members stressed that each recommendation should have an actor and action identified. They suggested, where possible, to integrate the need for more EU level measures in the health care into the actions recommended.

Members agreed to elaborate the specific questions discussed as well as recommendations and circulate the updated draft to the Secretariat in order to have it published on an Expert Panel website prior to the hearing.

The public hearing will be organised as a WebEx webinar on 20 October 2020. The members reiterated the importance to invite a wide range of stakeholders so to give their views and comments on the draft opinion.

3. Opinion on public procurement in healthcare systems

The chair of the drafting group and rapporteurs reported on the ongoing work and the progress made on the opinion, including elaborating the COM comments and providing the new draft to COM which is currently under COM review.

It was agreed that the public hearing where stakeholders can give their views and comments on the draft opinion would take place in November with, if needed, a preceding drafting group meeting.

4. Possible new mandate

COM informed members that new mandate is currently under discussion. COM is considering topics that are related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, e.g. on mental health. Panel members were invited to come forward with ideas for a possible next mandate.

5. Any other business and next steps

Chair reminded members that the next plenary meeting is scheduled for 25 November. The Chair thanked all participants and closed the meeting.

6. List of participants

MEMBERS

BARROS PITA Pedro
DE MAESENEER Jan
GACIA-ALTES Anna
GRUSON Damien
KRINGOS Dionne
LEHTONEN Lasse
LIONIS Christos
MCKEE Martin
MURAUŠKIENE Liubove
NUTI Sabina (apologies)
ROGERS Heather
SICILIANI Luigi
STAHL Dorothea
WIECZOROWSKA-TOBIS Katarzyna
ZACHAROV Sergej
ZALETEL Jelka

DG SANTE

MATTHEWS Maya (partly, future B1)
DAJKA Bela (B1)
VOLOSINOVA Viera (B1)