



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Directorate C – Public Health

Flash report

Meeting

Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases

5 February 2021

On 5 February 2021, the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases held a virtual meeting, chaired by DG SANTE. The representatives of 25 Member States, Norway and Iceland attended the meeting together with a number of Commission services, and agencies¹.

Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan and Horizon Europe's Mission on Cancer

The Commission informed that the Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan was adopted on 3 February 2021 with a budget of 4 billion Euro, reflecting strong commitment to address a comprehensive approach on cancer including cancer prevention and care and incorporating valuable contributions from Member States and citizens. The ten flagship actions and 42 actions were outlined briefly. The implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Action Plan is planned to be funded through several EU instruments such as the EU4Health Programme, Horizon Europe's Mission on Cancer, the Digital Europe Programme, Regional and Cohesion funds, as well as the Technical Support Instrument and the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

The Commission informed participants of the progress of the Mission on Cancer and the next steps scheduled for 2021. The mandate of the future SGPP sub-group on cancer related to the implementation of the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the Cancer Mission was discussed with Member States, with a focus on the profiles of potential members and on governance structures. There followed fruitful discussion between participants on the complexity of the governance between different groups concerning the cancer mission and cancer plan. The Commission agreed to draft a short document summarising the governance for the implementation on cancer actions in preparation for the upcoming joint meeting of the SGPP and the Shadow Programme Committee of Horizon Europe in early March.

¹ Directorates-General represented included Health and Food Safety (SANTE), Energy (ENER), Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (EMPL), Environment (ENV), Research and Innovation (RTD), Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI), Communications Networks, Content and Technology (CONNECT), Eurostat (ESTAT), Economic and Financial Affairs (ECFIN), Trade (TRADE), Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (EAC), as well as the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and representatives from a number of EU decentralised and executive agencies such as European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), European Investment Bank (EIB), Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (Chafea), and European Agency for Safety & Health at Work (EU-OSHA).

EU4Health Programme Implementation

DG SANTE then presented the draft regulation for the EU4Health Programme (2021-2027), for which a political agreement has been reached but which is still for adoption. Member States congratulated the Commission and welcomed the higher budget for health, at 5.1 billion Euro, which will provide opportunities for work between Member States with a higher impact for health. The SGPP will contribute to the governance of the EU4Health Programme advising the Commission on public health and on preparation of the transfer of best practice and existing research results, supporting effective implementation at both the EU and national level, participants were asked to provide reflections on its strategic priorities. It was confirmed that the EU4Health Steering Group, under the legal framework of the EU4Health Programme, would be responsible for preparing the work plans of the EU4Health programme. The SGPP will be essential in providing advice to the Commission on the areas of its expertise, namely on public health.

AOB and Next Steps

Health priorities under the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union were presented to participants. The Chair conclude the meeting by thanking participants for their valuable and enriching input.