



NOTE TO HEALTH INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Subject: Joint Action on HBSC

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) is a survey which is the only well established source for data on teenagers in the age group from 11 – 15 years. As the Commission set up recently a communication on youth a need of data for young adults is getting more and more important. Furthermore one main findings of the youth conference last year was the data gap from 16 onwards where data are needed.

Prof. Currie, leader of this survey, has several ideas concerning the extension of the age groups. However the funding is point of discussion.

A possible solution could be a joint action which has to be inserted in the work plan 2011 with one work package related to extend the age groups including 18 years young adults.

Another point is the changed behaviour of communication especially in the younger generation. Therefore this could be another point for the JA concerning the extension of the age group the use of new media.

Another point why this survey is so important is the information the politicians will get concerning the health status of young people who are the coming working generation – means they will step in to take over the generation contract. Therefore an economic analysis would be very important to get more information on the burden of diseases and cost for the society if the health status of young people will be neglected.

This will be the starting point for a 2 days meeting on 21 – 22 September 2010. with the Member States to discuss the future of the HBSC. Therefore it would be ideal to use this workshop already as preparatory meeting to plan the joint action too.

The first day should be with participants from official delegated representatives of the Member States and ETFA and candidate countries for a discussion what the Member States are expecting from the survey, possible outcomes and involvement from their side. This workshop also includes the HBSC researchers from each Member State.

The second day will be used to discuss the first day and start with the preparation of the JA.

Action for the Committee:

X	For information of the relevant people in the MS
	For comments
	For agreement