



# Maltese Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Ministry for Health



**MALTA**EU2017



# The Trio programme

- Guided by the strategic agenda of the European Council adopted in June 2014
- One of the common priority areas of the 18 month programme of the Trio Presidency of the Council as established by Netherlands, Slovak and Maltese Presidencies, covering the period January 2016 to June 2017 refers to:
  - **A UNION THAT EMPOWERS AND PROTECTS ALL ITS CITIZENS**

# The Trio programme

- “The protection of the health of EU citizens remains a key objective. The three Presidencies will take forward discussions on ways to improve the health status of the EU population, by fighting non-communicable diseases, the availability of and access to innovative and affordable medicines for patients as well as cooperation between Member States' health systems...”

See, Council of the European Union, “Taking forward the Strategic Agenda - 18 month programme of the Council (1 January 2016 - 30 June 2017, Doc 15258/15, Brussels, pg.13.


# Health Thematic Priorities

- Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise
- Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems
- Communicable Disease - HIV prevention and control across the EU
- Data for Health - The key to personalised sustainable care



# Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise

Why childhood obesity as a thematic priority ?

- Childhood obesity posing a high burden on Member States
  - Various reports indicate that despite various actions, childhood obesity is still a problem
  - All reports put obesity as a priority area for action
  - Concerted action is required across member states
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# Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise

- 2 main focal areas
  - Strategic approach: mid term evaluation of the EU Childhood obesity action plan 2014-2020
    - Identify good practices
    - Identify barriers
    - Develop council conclusions
  - Supporting tool : Food procurement for health in schools developed for use by Member States
  - Technical workshop in Malta 22-23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017



# Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise

Midterm evaluation of EU childhood obesity action plan which aims at halting the rise in childhood obesity in EU by 2020.

- Support a healthy start in life
- Promote healthier environments, especially in schools and pre-schools
- Make the healthy option the easier option
- Restrict marketing and advertising to children
- Inform and empower families
- Encourage physical activity
- Monitor and evaluate
- Increase research

# Non Communicable Diseases - Childhood Obesity: Halting the Rise

Development of Procurement Guidelines for Healthy food for schools  
(MT team, DG santé, JRC, WHO)

- What is public procurement and what do we mean with food procurement for health?
- Why should we consider public procurement of foods for health in schools?
- What can the impact be on children, schools and the food environment?
- EU examples of food procurement for health
- What are the barriers and can they be overcome?
- Guidance on school food standards and food procurement criteria for health





# Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems

- Health system cooperation is included in the Directive on patients' rights and cross-border care (ERNs, rare diseases, HTA, eHealth)
- Calls for enhanced health system efficiency and sustainability may be partly addressed by increasing health system cooperation
- Developments in medicine and health care necessitate generation of evidence on new models of health system organisation and delivery
- Timely to reflection on the objectives and methods of EU engagement Member States desire for their health systems post 2020



# Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems

- The Presidency perspective
  - Cooperation with other health systems may lead to enhanced efficiency thereby contributing towards the health system sustainability objective
  - Malta's long-standing practical experience with structured patient mobility (e.g. in the case of rare diseases) is useful to the emerging ERN concept in Europe
  - Council Conclusions will be elaborated on the thematic priority of Structured Cooperation between Health Systems



# Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems

- Questions being addressed in two policy briefs:
  - How can structured cooperation between countries address health workforce challenges related to highly specialized health care ?
    - Linked to the development of the ERNs
  - How can voluntary cross-border collaboration in public procurement improve access to health technologies?
    - Link to access to innovative /complex medicines and technologies such as those used in Rare Diseases



# Voluntary structured co-operation between Health Systems

- A Technical Workshop will be held on the 1-2 March in Malta
  - Four parallel sessions:
    - Collaborative procurement strategies to improve access to innovative technologies and medicines
    - Structured cooperation for training and service delivery in highly specialised health services
    - Rare diseases: How do we ensure small populations can access affordable innovation?
    - ERNs as a mechanism promoting structured cooperation between health professionals



# Communicable Disease - HIV prevention and control across the EU

## Rationale for HIV action

- Reduction in number of AIDS diagnoses during the last decade
- Burden of HIV infection remains unacceptably high in Europe
- Each year about 30,000 people are newly diagnosed with HIV in the EU/EEA
- Another 110,000 people are known to be infected in the broader European Region.
- Malta had a sudden surge of new cases mainly men who have sex with men (MSMs)
- The decline in reported HIV cases among heterosexuals and people who inject drugs
- Significant increase in reported cases among men who have sex with men

# Communicable Disease - HIV prevention and control across the EU

- Technical meeting on 30-31<sup>st</sup> January 2017
- Bring together **leading experts** on HIV prevention and control from across the EU
- To discuss **how Europe can improve** its response to HIV and achieve
  - targets outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals
  - actions agreed at the UN High-Level meeting on HIV/AIDS
  - actions adopted in the action plan for the Health Sector response to HIV in the WHO European Region.
  - EC. Action Plan on HIV/AIDS in the EU and neighbouring countries: 2014-2016
- To discuss **practical evidence-based interventions and strategies**
- **Share** achievements and examples of good practices
- **Identify solutions** to common challenges.
- Develop a technical **MALTA Declaration**



# Data for Health

- **Data for Health: *the key to personalised sustainable care*** is the overarching theme of the High-Level eHealth Conference that will be held in Malta from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017
- This Conference is being organised by the Presidency and the Commission, in liaison with WHO-Europe and HIMSS Europe; it will be co-located with an eHealth Conference & Exhibition organised by HIMSS Europe

# Data for Health

Subjects to be discussed include:

- Access by patients to their own data
- Sharing personal health data across country borders
- Data management analytics for personalised medicine and public health policy
- Improving effectiveness, safety and privacy of mobile health
- Moving health data safely onto cloud infrastructure
- Cyber-security and the NIS Directive
- Scaling up digital innovation for health and care
- Smart environments and integrated care
- Reforming healthcare systems: innovative approaches to reimbursement, procurement and certification





# Data for Health



- On 9<sup>th</sup> May, Malta will host the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the EU's **eHealth Network**, the agenda of which will include the implementation of cross-border eHealth services under the Connecting Europe Facility, discussion on the 2018-2021 Multiannual Work Plan, and a presentation on Malta's Digital Health Strategy.
- A **High-Level Informal Working Lunch** will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May. During this event, high-level delegates will discuss the mid-term review of the eHealth Action Plan 2012-2020.

# Ministry for Health: Salient dates

<b>Conference on HIV – Co-organised with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC )</b>	<b>30 - 31 January</b>
<b>Expert Group Technical meeting on Childhood Obesity</b>	<b>22 – 23 February</b>
<b>Workshop on Structured Cooperation between Health Systems</b>	<b>1 – 2 March</b>
<b>Informal Meeting of Health Ministers (EPSCO)</b>	<b>19 – 20 March</b>
<b>eHealth Week</b>	<b>10 – 12 May</b>
<b>EPSCO (Health)</b>	<b>16 June</b>



We look forward to welcoming you in Malta



Thank you for your kind attention!



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