



9th Plenary Meeting of the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health

Brussels 05 March 2015

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed the members of the Expert Panel to this ninth plenary meeting.

Bengt Jönsson sent his apologies for the meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The draft Agenda was adopted with no additions or modifications.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON MATTERS OF THE AGENDA

The Chair reminded the members to proactively inform the Expert Panel and the Commission of developments in their careers or their professional activities, and in case of doubt, ask for advice. He added that this obligation is continuous and will be brought to the attention of members at each and every meeting.

There were no declarations.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The draft Minutes were adopted without any modifications.

5. ON-GOING WORK

5.1 ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

The Chair (J. De Maeseneer) and the Rapporteur (S. Thomson) presented the draft opinion and the group worked through each section to consolidate ideas and assess content. Particular focus was placed on the acceptable limits of access to care and the recognition of underserved groups including the reasons for their inclusion. The next scheduled meeting is March 23rd. The opinion will be updated for finalisation by May or June 2015.

5.2. CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The Chair (L. Lehtonen) and the Rapporteur (H. Brand) updated the group on the status of this mandate. The work has been slightly delayed but the intent is to recover the lost time at the next scheduled meeting of March 12th

Input was sought from the EXPH members as guidance for the Working Group. The necessity of cross-border cooperation and its obstacles were debated. The opinion will be updated for circulation to the group by May 2015 with a view for adoption at the July 2015 plenary

5.3. DISRUPTIVE INNOVATION IN HEALTH CARE. CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The Chair (P. Barros) and the Rapporteur (W. Ricciardi) provided an update of their work. All members contributed to the conversation to help the working group refine their approach. Their next meeting will be March 26th. They expect to have this opinion finalised by June 2015.

6. NEW MANDATES – DISCUSSION OF LIST OF IDEAS FOR NEW MANDATES

A representative for ECFIN C2 presented three ideas for mandates. Firstly to identify methods for the quantification of structural reform effects on health care. Secondly to investigate how medical devices are priced and procured by MSs and to assess if a single European procurement method would be feasible. Lastly to investigate how MS health systems commission private services. The first question was considered the most complex and following discussion it was suggested that cooperation between ECFIN and the EXPH would be necessary divide this question into more specific subsection for adoption. It was decided to delay investigation of the second question until a later date due to workload demands. Idea three was considered the most straightforward of the three and so it is to be prepared for possible future adoption at the plenary meeting in May. It was decided that as current mandates are being finalised work on new mandates will not begin until the second half of 2015.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) The EXPH provided feedback that information on the requirements and responsibilities of future experts needs to be available prior to them agreeing to commit so that they have a clear idea of what the commitment entails.

b) The EXPH agreed that once the invitation for public consultation has closed it cannot be reopened. As the Commission is obliged to reply it is necessary for EXPH members to inform the Commission of communication and a letter of acknowledgement is being drafted for these late submissions.

c) The members were invited to an event on March 19th on the topic 'Roadmap for Sustainability in Healthcare'. The Secretariat will seek to identify interested members and will follow with the logistical aspects.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other business matters.

The meeting ended following the standard round of evaluation of the plenary meeting.