Pre-conference on Mental Health of Children and Adolescents

Luxembourg, 20-21 September 2004
WHO Ministerial Conference on Mental Health 2005

Dates:
12-15 January 2005

Venue:
Helsinki, Finland

Title:
Mental Health in Europe facing the challenges - building solutions
WHO EUROPEAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH
FACING THE CHALLENGES, BUILDING SOLUTIONS
Helsinki, Finland, 12-15 January 2005
The conference will be attended by health politicians and policy makers. They and other key stakeholders – professionals, service users, care givers and family members – will present their perspectives.
Conference aims:

- Review European policies for mental health
- Explore settings for mental health
- Identify barriers
- Suggest solutions
- Develop an action plan
Pre-events:

- Human Rights, Stigma and Mental Health Disorders
  Copenhagen – 7-9 February 2003

- Mental Health and Stigma in Europe
  Athens – 27-29 March 2003

- Suicide Prevention Strategies in Europe
  Brussels – 11-12 March 2004

- Societal Stress and Mental Health
  Moscow – 3-5 June 2004

- Mental Health Status of Populations
  Paris – 30 June 2004

- Mental Health of Children and Adolescents
  Luxembourg – 20-21 September 2004

- Mental Health and the Working Life
  Tallinn – 4-5 October 2004
Steering Committee:

✓ Finland
✓ Greece
✓ Belgium
✓ Russian Federation
✓ Estonia
✓ Luxembourg
✓ France
✓ European Commission
✓ Council of Europe
✓ Mental Health Europe
Challenges in mental health of children and adolescents in Europe

- There is an overall pattern of life satisfaction (around 80%) across age groups (11, 13 and 15 year-olds) and genders.

- The rate of emotional problems such as anxiety and depression has increased by 70% among adolescents.

- Services cannot cope with demand. Most countries in Europe have a shortage of skilled mental health workers.

- The suicide rates have increased over the last 20 years in most of the European countries regardless of sub-region, particularly among boys (highest increases in Ireland, Spain, Belarus and Kazakhstan).