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From: Rytis Virbalis [mailto:ryvirb@lrs.lt]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 4:06 PM
To: SANCO REFLECTION HEALTH STRATEGY
Subject: notes to health strategy draft

Having in mind discussions in European health forum in Gastein, October, 2004 I would like to suggest some proposals European health strategy paper :

1. It should be clearly stated that EU needs this strategy because it comes out from EU Constitution, i.e. promoting of Social Europe model based on European values.
The European Commission and EU member states should take this responsibility. It seems that UK presidency in the 2005 could be good period to move forward.
2. European health strategy should be based on value of solidarity and health as fundamental human right principle.
3. European health policy matters related to AIDS and other communicable disease control should become part of EU foreign and security policy.
4. European health policy needs high level political commitment at EU level as an instrument to solve most important health policy problems such as tobacco, health nutrition etc.
Lithuanian political parties agreement of promote public health in positive way signed in 2004 could be used as a model.
5. Regard to health systems development and patient mobility - it needs clear shared vision of European institutions and member states about further EU and national competences to regulate the patient movement or to liberalise it. Services directive brings problem of patient as only ordinary consumer concept and doesn't give an answer.
6. What is relation between EU health strategy and Health for All WHO strategy ? It makes sense to describe possible links of further collaboration EU and WHO in implementing health strategy of EU.
7. DG SANCO capacities should be strengthened to be able to implement the EU health strategy.
8. Additional research in health policy fields such as AIDS, health impact assessment, health systems development in enlarged EU is needed and should be promoted.

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