FORUM MEMBERS

Introduction to the EU Health Policy Forum

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EU HEALTH POLICY FORUM

ABOUT THE FORUM
The aim of the Forum is to bring together umbrella organisations representing stakeholders in the health sector to ensure that the EU’s health strategy is open, transparent and responds to the public concerns. The intention is to provide an opportunity to organise consultations, to exchange views and experience on a wide range of topics, and to assist in implementation and follow-up of specific initiatives.

The EU Health Policy Forum is, as agreed in the response of the Commission to the public consultation on the creation of the forum in early 2001, part of a structure additionally consisting of the Open Forum. The EU Health Policy Forum has a limited attendance whereas the Open Forum enables a wider audience. Membership has been revised in 2006.

The EU Health Policy Forum meets twice a year in Brussels. The meetings review the EU work in various areas of public health and adopt recommendations on them.

STAKEHOLDERS
The Forum seeks to cover evenly four groups of organisations:

1. Non-governmental organisations in the public health field and patients’ organisations.
2. Organisations representing health professionals and trade unions.
3. Health service providers and health insurance.
4. Industry with a particular health interest.

The NGOs which are members of the EU Health Policy Forum all cover a broad range of issues and have members in all or most of the EU member states.

OPEN FORUM
The Open Forum extends the work of the Health Policy Forum to a broader set of stakeholders having approximately 350 participants. The format of the Open Forum is a plenary session in the morning followed by three parallel sessions in the afternoon lead and organised by NGOs.

The first Open Forum was held on 17 May 2004 in Brussels. The theme of this first meeting was Health in an Enlarged Europe. The second Open Forum took place on 7/8 November 2005 in Brussels. Its theme was Health Challenges and future strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS
The recommendations produced by the EU Health Policy Forum

- Recommendations on Health Services and Internal Market (May 2005)
- Recommendations on Health Information (May 2005)
- Recommendations on Mobility of Health Professionals (December 2003)
- Recommendation on Health and EU Social Policy (December 2003)
- Recommendations on Health and Enlargement (November 2002)

FURTHER INFORMATION
For further information on the EU Health Forum please look at http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_overview/health_forum/health_forum_en.htm

Here you will find information on the member organisations, the content of the meetings and other information on the EU Health Forum.