

## **EHRM final report, Appendix 2:**

# **1st EHRM Steering Committee Meeting**

Helsinki 11-12 September 2000

## **Minutes**

### **Present:**

Pekka Puska (SC member) (Chair)

Kari Kuulasmaa (SC member)

Alun Evans (SC member)

Philippe Amouyel (SC member, present on 11 September)

G.C Cesana (SC member)

Matti Rajala (observer, EU, present on 11 September)

Arpo Aromaa (observer, HMP Committee member, present on 11 September)

Hanna Tolonen (observer)

Tiina Laatikainen (observer)

Erkki Vartiainen (observer)

Zygimantas Cepaitis (observer)

Tuula Virman-Ojanen (observer)

### **Apologies:**

Ulrich Keil (SC member)

Aushra Shatchkute (SC member)

Henriette Chamollet (SC member, EU)

Dimitrije Jakovljevic (observer)

### **1. Agenda:**

Agenda was agreed taking into account the fact that Philippe Amouyel would not be available in the second day.

### **2. General discussion about EU Health Monitoring Program,**

The program, its current status and future perspectives were introduced by Matti Rajala and Arpo Aromaa. More details about the program is available at <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/health/> MR told that Europe needs a good quality easy-to-use information system for health policy people, prevention and clinical practise. Such a system requires European co-ordination. France, the current EU presidency, is pushing forward. There is a hope that resources available in EU for health monitoring will increase substantially in the future Networks of national experts would be needed to provide the key information to the health information system. The primary responsibility of the data collection will be on the national governments.

AA emphasised two aspects of the current Projects: First, to assess the comparability and possibilities to use existing data, and secondly, to make recommendation on how the comparability and validity of the data can be improved. He also reviewed the overlap between the European Health Risk Monitoring and the other Projects.

### **3. Background and objectives of the Project**

Kari Kuulasmaa summarised the background and objectives of the project, and introduced the work plan. To the question on how Products 1 and 2 of the Project would be used in the future, MR replied that we should use them for products 3 and 4 as much as possible, because Products 3 and 4 would show and promote their utility. EC is expecting from the Project expert advice on what is important, what can be done and how to do it.

The focus of the project would be on standardization of future monitoring, but comparability with earlier surveys would also be important for the assessment of trends.

#### **4. Discussion and comments about the Product 1**

A draft of Product 1 (Review of surveys conducted so far and comparability of the results) was discussed and the several improvements were agreed on. Ulrich Keil will provide information on the German National Health Survey and Alun Evans on the British surveys for the review. Daan Kromhout will be contacted for information on the Dutch surveys.

#### **5. Discussion and comments about the Product 2**

A draft of the first part of Product 2 (Population indicators of CVD risk factors) was discussed and the several improvements were agreed on.

#### **6. NPI-meeting**

A meeting of the National Principal Investigators (NPI) was agreed to be held in Helsinki on 9-10 February 2001. All the NPIs will be invited. (To be found out whether travel expenses of also the EU-applicant members could be paid from the Project's EU funding). Also Ruth Bonita from the WHO should be invited, and the invitation of representatives of the surveys reviewed in Product 1 should be considered. Representatives from other countries could attend on their own expense.

#### **7. Steering Committee meetings**

A telephone conference will be held in December or early January to agree about the details of the NPI meeting. After the NPI meeting, there will be 1 or 2 Steering Committee meetings.

#### **8. Communication**

Centres will be informed soon about the time and place of the NPI meeting, and a preliminary number of participants will be asked for. Draft Products 1 and 2 will be placed in the Internet well before the NPI meeting, and a letter about their availability will be sent to the centres.

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