



CPME MONTHLY BULLETIN

Stay in the Loop!

July 2016

Dear CPME members,

We are delighted to send you our summer edition of the CPME Monthly Bulletin with the Executive Committee decisions from the meeting held in Brussels on 7 July 2016.

The CPME Executive Committee agenda included, *inter alia*, the current situation of the CPME budget 2016, the draft terms of reference for a CPME working group on diet, nutrition, physical activity and draft CPME policy on obesity.

Furthermore, we are pleased to announce that, as from the 1st of August 2016, the current CPME senior policy adviser Ms Sarada Das will take on the role of CPME Deputy Secretary General. Let us all congratulate Sarada on her promotion and wish her continued success with our organisation.

We hope the bulletin is informative and we invite you to consult our [latest news](#) and [CPME Twitter account](#) to be always updated on the CPME activities.

You are welcome to contact us directly if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

The CPME Secretariat wishes you a sunny and relaxing summer holiday season with your family and friends!

Kind regards,

RA Annabel Seeböhm, LL.M.
CPME Secretary General

Finance

The Executive Committee was informed that the Secretariat has been the victim of fraud. In January 2016, the 1st 2016 quarter rent money (roughly 16.000 EUR) has been intercepted and payed to a “fake” bank account. The Secretariat reported to the police and the state attorney. So far, the bank has not provided any explanation. CPME’s primary objective is to recuperate the payement. To this end, the EC members commissioned the CPME Secretary General to seek legal advice on how to deal with the bank. Should these efforts not be succesfull and in case the money is not transferred back to CPME, the amount should not be depreciated but marked as a loss.

Internal affairs

The Executive Committee concluded on the discussions regarding possible changes to the CPME Statutes and Rules of Procedures. In preparation of the discussions at the upcoming General Assembly in Tel Aviv, the Secretariat will circulate the final draft documents as submitted by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board to CPME members by mid-August 2016..

Policies

Diet, nutrition, physical activity

The Executive Committee approved the draft terms of reference for a CPME Working Group on Diet, Nutrition and Physical Activity, as well as a draft to launch the working group’s discussion on obesity. The Executive Committee also proposed to invite the working group to address the socio-economic determinants of health in the policy paper. It is planned to present a policy paper to the CPME Board for decision in November 2016. In April 2016 the Board had decided to create such a working group to support CPME Rapporteur Prof Rutger Jan van der Gaag in the drafting of a policy on obesity, which should i. a. discuss the possible recognition of obesity as a disease.

The Executive Committee approved the [CPME draft position](#) on the proposal to amend the [Audio-Visual Media Services Directive](#). The Directive coordinates national laws on audio-visual media services, i.e. television and on-demand services, and governs commercial communications and restrictions to advertising. The EC reviewed the [proposal](#) and agreed that it is useful to repeat the positions CPME adopted in the response to the consultation on the Directive in 2015 as regards the need to introduce legislation controlling advertising of unhealthy foods and alcohol.

Professional qualifications

The Executive Committee approved the [draft CPME response](#) to the European Commission’s [consultation](#) on the regulation of professions, Member States' National Action Plans and proportionality in regulation. The consultation builds on the outcomes of the mutual evaluation and transparency exercise of the regulation of professions introduced by the amendment to the Professional Qualifications Directive. The EC members discussed the importance of reaffirming the principles of professional regulation established in CPME policies, as well as encouraging the membership to review the national action plan and respond to the consultation.

European semester

The Executive Committee was presented the CPME briefing on the European Semester and welcomed it as a basis for further CPME discussions. This document presents background information on the European Semester process, the current country-specific recommendations and the opportunities and rationale for CPME members to become involved in the process. The format of the CPME briefing is to offer members a new service by combining detailed information and tools for action on issues of high political interest. Please find the briefing at [CPME 2016/076](#).

International calendar

The Executive Committee reviewed the CPME participation at forthcoming meetings of CPME members, European Medical Organisations and international partners.

Any other business

The Executive Committee was informed that Prof. Dr Reinhard Marre, CPME's representative to the [Advisory Forum of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](#) has announced his intention to resign from the position. He has offered his assistance in the process of nominating a candidate to replace him. Prof. Marre will be invited to the CPME meetings in November 2016 to bid him farewell.

In addition, the Executive Committee agreed to distribute the [Web-RADR survey](#) on the reporting of adverse drug reactions via a mobile application to CPME members. However, the EC members specified that CPME involvement should be strictly limited to the distribution of the survey.



CPME meetings, Tel Aviv (Israel) 18-19 November 2016

Dear members,

The CPME Secretariat together with the Israel Medical Association is preparing with excitement the next CPME meetings that will take place on 17-19 November 2016 in Tel Aviv (Israel).

In order to facilitate your plans, we are pleased to share with you some updates regarding the schedule. We invite you to take note of the pre-meeting events.

Mid August 2016: send-out of draft amendments to the CPME Statutes and Rules of Procedures

27 October 2016: 1st send-out of CPME meetings' agendas and documents (including all documents for discussion and decision)

10 November 2016: 2nd send-out of CPME meetings' agendas and documents

17 November 2016

14.00h – 16.30h: CPME Executive Committee - Israel Medical Association (IMA) premises

16.30h – 18.00h: CPME Executive Committee and IMA Board meeting - IMA premises

20.00h – 22.00h: Gala dinner (venue tbc) kindly hosted by the IMA (gathering time at 19.30h in the lobby of the hotel).

18 November 2016

09.30h – 12.30h: Visit of the "Simulation Centre" - Tel HaShomer Hospital

(time tbc): Lunch - Dan Tel Aviv Hotel

(time tbc): CPME Working Groups - Dan Tel Aviv Hotel

19h00 – 21.00h: CPME Reception - Dan Tel Aviv Hotel

19 November 2016

09.00h – 16.00h: CPME Board Meeting and CPME General Assembly - Dan Tel Aviv Hotel

20 November 2016

09.30h – 16.00h: Guided Tour – Jerusalem City (information on registration fee to follow)

General Assembly and Board minutes

In preparation of the upcoming CPME Board, General Assembly and Working Groups meetings which will be held in Tel Aviv (Israel) on 18 - 19 November 2016, we are pleased to share with you the draft minutes from the last CPME meetings held in Brussels (Belgium) on 09 April 2016.

[Minutes of the General Assembly available here.](#)

[Minutes of the CPME Board available here.](#)

PACT is looking for doctor representatives for the conference in Sofia, Bulgaria (12-13 September)

On September 12-13, the Patient Access Partnership ([PACT](#)) will hold its first Regional Conference entitled “Cooperation within the Region: A Way to Improve Access to Quality Healthcare in CEE”. CPME is partner of PACT and member of the Steering Committee. The event, which will take place in Sofia, will gather local representatives of the PACT partners from Central and Eastern European countries, including Serbia and Turkey. The conference will also gather government officials from each of the countries. The Regional Conference aims to provide the ground for highlighting best practice examples of cooperation at regional and national level. A concept note regarding the PACT Regional Conference is available [here](#).

PACT is currently looking for representatives from the healthcare sector (doctors, nurses, pharmacists, public health advocates, government officials, generic industry, innovative industry and medical technology industry) from each of the CEE countries.

CPME would like to invite the members from the respective countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Greece, Serbia and Turkey) to represent the medical profession at the conference.

Please, liaise with the CPME Communication Officer, Ms Miriam D’Ambrosio (Miriam.dambrosio@cpme.eu) if you are interested to join in.

Monitoring news

Survey on defensive medicine

As discussed at the CPME Board meeting in April 2016, we would like to invite you to respond to a **survey on defensive medicine**. Please find the details including the survey [HERE](#). We would be grateful if you could send your reply to sarada.das@cpme.eu by **6 August 2016**.

Public consultation on EU guidelines on prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine

In the context of ongoing work against the rising threats from antimicrobial resistance and given the role of antimicrobial misuse and overuse in the emergence and spread of resistance, the European Commission requested ECDC to develop draft **EU guidelines on the prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine**. The draft guidelines, which will support the European Commission in its aim to produce the final EU guidelines on this topic, are now open for **public consultation** at the following link on the ECDC website: http://bit.ly/ECDC_antibiotic_use.

The deadline for the public consultation is **5 September 2016**. CPME will draft a response.

Public consultation on the European Pillar of Social Rights

The European Commission has launched a [public consultation on the European Pillar of Social Rights](#). The focus is on the principles established in the Pillar on i.a. employment rights, equal opportunities and healthcare. The consultation will close on 31 December 2016. CPME will prepare a response.

Open consultation concerning surrogacy

The Council of Europe launched an **open consultation concerning surrogacy** until **31 August 2016**.

Your response is likely to be valuable as a contribution to the opinion of the International NGOs Conference of the Council of Europe which is to be adopted in the 2nd half of 2016.

Surrogacy, its implications as well as a draft declaration may be found in this link: [EN](#). Overall for ethical reasons as well as moral grounds, the draft declaration takes a stance against the legalisation of surrogacy.

To send your answers, please contact:

thierry.mathieu31@gmail.com

michelaguilar@orange.fr .

EPSCO Council conclusions and Polish note

The Employment, Social, Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO) is one of the thematic configurations of the Council of the European Union (the institution representing member states'). EPSCO meetings gather ministers responsible for health, employment, social policy and consumer affairs. There are four annual meetings, two of which concern employment and social policy and the other two which refer to health and consumer affairs.

Three main outcomes of the EPSCO meeting on 16 - 17 June 2016 are relevant for European doctors:

The Polish delegation submitted a note for discussion highlighting the **dangers of European standardization of healthcare services**, namely the CEN initiative that extended its mandate from technical standards to healthcare services. It reminded that article 168 TFEU clearly states that healthcare services are competence of the EU member states.

The following delegations supported the Polish position: Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Austria, Croatia, Lithuania, and Malta (please find the note [here](#)). Romania highlighted the difficulties of engaging with the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) due to the high costs of participation.

The Member States also challenged the Commission as to its role in the process, referring i.a. to Commission events on standardisation and the [Annual Work Programme for European standardisation](#) which includes a chapter on healthcare services.

Council conclusions concerning next steps of the One Health approach to combat antimicrobial resistance (council conclusions are available [here](#))

First of all, Member States are asked to have **national action plans** in place by mid-2017, which include notably measurable goals, mechanisms for implementation and monitoring as well as targeted campaigns to raise awareness among consumers, animal keepers and relevant professionals. In addition, Member States together with the European Commission should also develop an **EU Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance** considering the One Health approach.

Council conclusions on strengthening the balance of pharmaceutical systems in the EU and its member states (council conclusions are available [here](#))

These conclusions aim at stimulating further cooperation on pricing and reimbursement of medicinal products. This cooperation should remain on a voluntary basis between Member states that share common interest.

In addition, further cooperation at the EU level is foreseen, namely within EUNeHTA and the most relevant point refers to further investments at national and EU level in the development of innovative medicines for clearly defined unmet medical needs.

Next Executive Committee meeting: Brussels, 15 September 2016, 09h30-16h00