



CPME MONTHLY BULLETIN

Stay in the Loop!

September 2019



Dear CPME members,

We are glad to present you the latest edition of our Monthly bulletin.

If you have not done so already, we kindly invite you to register to the CPME meetings in Helsinki (Finalnd) using this [link](#). A brief overview with the timeline of the General meetings can be found at the end of this bulletin.

In this Bulletin edition, you will be informed about the main decisions taken by the members of the CPME Executive Committee on 12 September 2019. Among other items, the Executive Committee discussed about the comments to the EMA public consultation on ICH guideline on general considerations for clinical studies and the CPME participation in the public consultation on state subsidy rules for health and social services of general economic interest.

We hope the bulletin is informative and we invite you to consult our [latest news](#) and the members' section of our website. Please, don't hesitate to contact us directly if you have any comments, questions or concerns.

Kind regards,
Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery
CPME President

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Executive Committee meeting

Internal affairs

Terms of Reference for CPME activities

The Executive Committee adopted the terms of reference on 'Health systems' and 'Skill mix'.

It was explained that they were drafted in cooperation with the Rapporteurs appointed to the dossiers to describe the scope and timeframe of CPME activities on the topics. The activities have been launched and an update will be presented at the CPME meetings in November 2019.

CPME General Assembly and Board meeting draft agendas

The Executive Committee took note of the General Assembly and Board meeting draft agendas.

The draft agendas are available [here](#).

EC meetings 2020

The Executive Committee took note of the EC draft calendar 2020.

The EC members will take a decision on 10 October, the day of the next web-meeting.

Finance

The Executive Committee took note of the current accounts as of June 2019, the travel costs spent and the contribution key for 2020 following recent numbers provided by CPME members and EUROSTAT.

Furthermore, the Executive Committee discussed the draft budget 2020.

It was highlighted that the budget has to accommodate for the uncertainty about the SEPEN payment (see agenda below), which is why the income has to be reduced. Potential new incoming project money (on AMR and vaccination, see agenda below) were not yet considered given the preparatory status. At the same time, activities continuously increase which has to be accommodated with sufficient staffing.

Policies

BMA survey on safe staffing levels

The Executive Committee decided to disseminate among the CPME membership the [survey on the 'Safe staffing levels'](#) drafted by the British Medical Association.

The survey is being carried out in the context of a [project](#) aiming to collect individual doctors' experiences with staffing levels in their workplace. In addition to the UK survey, the BMA is also interested in the EU experiences.

EMA public consultation on ICH guideline on General Considerations for Clinical Studies

The Executive Committee decided to comment on the [ICH guideline](#) following the advice by CPME Rapporteur on Clinical Trials, Prof. Herchuelz.

Prof. Herchuelz suggested to emphasise the role of ethic committees and to express cautions regarding the participation of pregnant and nursing women in clinical trials. The EC also decided to include a comment on the risk associated to the lack of validity of systems where secondary data is stored.

Call for expression of interest: eHealth Stakeholder Group members 2019-2021

The Executive Committee decided that CPME should apply for membership in the relaunched eHealth Stakeholder Group.

The eHealth Working Group will be informed about the [call for expression of interest](#) and will be invited to put forward candidatures for the post of CPME representative. The Commission has presented this call for expression of interest to select the members of the eHealth Stakeholder Group 2019-2022. Members of the group shall be umbrella organisations/associations or organisations with a European outreach active in the field of eHealth, and shall be appointed for a period of three years. The eHealth Stakeholder Group is expected to provide advice and expertise, contributing to policy development and the implementation of the Communication on enabling the digital transformation of health and care in the Digital Single Market, adopted in April 2018. The Executive Committee recommended Prof. Georgios Raptis to apply on behalf of CPME unless CPME members propose another candidate.

Public consultation on State subsidy rules for health and social services of general economic interest

The Executive Committee decided to participate in the [public consultation](#) on State subsidy rules for health and social services of general economic interest.

It was explained that the consultation concerns the review of the EU legal framework on state aid rules for a range of services including health services provided in the Member States. The consultation enquires if the existing framework, which permits state aid to health providers under certain conditions, is still appropriate. The EC considered that the topic is outside of CPME's scope of expertise. However, it was agreed to participate as an opportunity to underline the need to maintain the differentiation between health services and services delivered in a purely commercial context.

Environmental Health & Climate Change

The Executive Committee discussed about the possible topic of the CPME members' conference in Zagreb in April 2020. As usual, a CPME members' conference will be organized on the occasion of the CPME General Assembly and Board meeting.

Dr Martin Balzan, CPME Rapporteur on Environmental Health and Climate Change, proposes air quality as a timely topic. Given that there is no priority shift envisaged by the new Commissioner for health, the EC agreed with Dr Balzan's proposal.

European Economic and Social Committee Civil Society Liaison Group

The Executive Committee took note of the progress made on CPME's application to the [European Economic and Social Committee Civil Society Liaison Group](#).

Following the EC's decision in December 2018 to apply for membership, a meeting had taken place with the group's chairs to discuss the modalities and content of its work. It was agreed that membership may offer opportunities to CPME, e.g. to discuss the situation of liberal professions, especially as other professions were also joining. The Liaison Group brings together representatives of 'the main sectors of organised civil society at European level' with high-level representatives of the EESC. Its objective is to act as a bridge between EU-level civil society and the EESC, as well as other EU institutions, and offer a platform for civil society representatives to discuss topics of shared interest. It is coordinated by the EESC Secretariat.

Draft policy on violence against doctors

The Executive Committee took note of the correspondence with [CEOM](#) on the possible collaboration on the topic of [violence against doctors](#).

The EC members agreed to follow CEOM's invitation to join its WG at the [next meeting](#) in November 2019. It was also agreed that the topic was a good example of collaboration among the European Medical Organisations as for example [AEMH](#) had also started a process on the issue.

Vaccination call

The Executive Committee took note of the update on the [tender on Improving Uptake and Confidence in Vaccines for Patients with Chronic Diseases, Families and Communities](#) where it had decided to participate by a written procedure in August 2019.

The European Patients' Forum ([EPF](#)), the consortium leader, will submit the tender proposal on 13 September 2019. Provisionally, CPME's staff budget would be 26,500 € based on 2.18 months contribution. The total budget would be 700,000 € and the duration 18 months.

AMR call

The Executive Committee took note of the progress made in the preparation of the application to the [project call on Stakeholder actions to implement the EU guidelines on prudent use of antimicrobials in human health \(PJ-02-2019\)](#). As decided in July, CPME will join the consortium led by [INSERM](#).

CPME is planning to be in charge of the organisation of regional debates on the implementation of EU guidelines on the prudent use of antibiotics. The debates would follow a similar format as the ones currently organised on [One Health](#) and would be prepared in cooperation with the Council of European Dentists ([CED](#)), the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe ([FVE](#)) and potentially with the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union ([PGEU](#)). As none of these organisations will be a member of the consortium, the project coordinators confirmed that CPME could subcontract them for the preparation of the debates.

EDU online medical school

The Executive Committee took note of the update on the most recent meeting between the [EDU online medical school](#) and the Medical Association of Malta.

EDU reported that it had made progress in contracting a German brick-and-mortar university as quality auditor. At the same time, it is seeking collaboration with renowned university hospitals. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

SEPEN

The Executive Committee took note of the report on the status quo of the [SEPEN](#) project.

It was explained that while CPME had so far delivered according to the work plan, various other activities beyond CPME's control are delayed. The project coordinator has held a meeting with the Commission to address concerns. A report is awaited. To anticipate any repercussions as to the payment, the CPME budget has been adjusted accordingly.

International calendar

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

Monitoring news

President-Elect Dr Ursula von der Leyen unveiled the new College of Commissioners 2019-2024

On 10 September 2019, the President-Elect Dr Ursula von der Leyen unveiled the [new College of Commissioners 2019-2024](#).

In her [speech](#), the President-elect said that “the new College will have eight Vice-Presidents, including the High-Representative of the Union for Foreign Policy and Security Policy (Josep Borrell). The Vice-Presidents are responsible for the top priorities in the Political Guidelines. They will steer our work on the most important overarching issues, such as the European Green Deal, a Europe fit for the digital age, an economy that works for people, protecting our European way of life, a stronger Europe in the world and a new push for European democracy. The Commissioners are at the centre of the structure of the new College. They will manage the expertise provided by the Directorates-General.”

CPME is pleased to see that a Commissioner for health stays. Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus) has been designated EU Commissioner for health. A clinical psychologist by training, she is a long-standing campaigner on breast

cancer and has worked on health policy issues in the Cypriot legislature. This decision confirms the importance of keeping a unique and working Directorate General focusing on health policy. This is in fact a prerequisite to ensure a continuous debate on health. The President-elect Dr von der Leyen sent a [mission letter](#) to Ms Kyriakides highlighting the European health policy priorities for the next five years to come. In particular, the Commissioner-designate is expected to work on:

- measures ensuring that Europe has the supply of affordable medicines to meet its needs;
- the effective implementation of the new regulatory framework on medical devices;
- the creation of a European Health Data Space promoting health-data exchange and supporting research on new preventive strategies;
- the full implementation of the European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance;
- the raising of awareness on the important role of vaccination, explaining the benefits and combating the myths, misconceptions and scepticism that surround the issue;
- the execution of the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan supporting Member States to improve cancer prevention and care.

CPME takes note of the designation of Mariya Gabriel (Bulgaria, current European Commissioner) as Commissioner for Innovation and Youth. She worked on the digital portfolio and is now moving on to create new perspectives for the young generation. Sylvie Goulard (France, former Member of European Parliament) is the Commissioner-designate for Internal Market. She will lead the work on industrial policy and promote the Digital Single Market. She will also be responsible for the new Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space.

Next steps: the European Parliament has to approve the entire College of Commissioners, including the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission. This is preceded by hearings of the Commissioners-designate in the relevant Parliamentary committees, in line with Parliament's Rules of Procedure. Once the European Parliament has given its consent, the European Council formally appoints the European Commission, in line with Article 17(7) TEU.

CPME will follow the hearings of the Parliament and inform you about further developments.

WHO-Europe elects Hans Kluge and welcomes CPME collaboration

From 15-18 September 2019, CPME attended WHO-Europe's annual meeting of its governing body, the Regional committee. The meeting saw the election of a new Director General for the European region, with the Belgian [Dr Hans Kluge](#) winning the Member States' votes to succeed Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab. Dr Jakab will move on to the WHO headquarters in Geneva as Deputy Director General. CPME also used the meeting to meet the four WHO-Europe programme directors dealing with antimicrobial resistance, alcohol policy, health workforce, and vaccinations. These meetings were used to present CPME's activities in the respective policy areas and explore opportunities for cooperation. WHO-Europe welcomed CPME's commitment and made suggestions for future collaboration, e.g. participation in the One Health conference CPME is co-hosting in Warsaw in December, or joint action promoting the WHO recommendations on alcohol control.

CPME Secretariat will follow-up on these proposals. CPME also provided input to the formal proceedings in the form of [written statements](#) on the agenda items relating to health equity, primary care, digital health and health literacy. The CPME statement on health equity was also read out to the Regional committee plenary by Dr Andreas Rudkjøbing.

CPME news and publications

The EU health debate 2019-2024: Health Champions Wanted!

EU 2019-2024: Health Champions Wanted!

*9 October, 18.30 – 20.30
European Parliament, Room JAN 6Q1*

We are pleased to invite you to the upcoming **post-election event “The EU health debate 2019-2024: Health Champions Wanted!”** taking place on the **9 October 2019** between **18h30 and 20h30** at the **European Parliament, Room JAN 6Q1**.

What are the main health policy challenges for the EU? How can the EU promote high quality and sustainable healthcare for all? These and other challenges require EU action and health champions in the European Parliament. With our event we hope to bring together committed MEPs with the health community to discuss how to take next steps together to ensure health remains high on the European Parliament agenda for the next five years.

The event, which will be co-hosted by **MEP Dr Peter Liese (EPP, DE)** and **Dr Sara Cerdas (S&D, PT)**, is jointly organised by the International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies ([AIM](#)), the Council of European Dentists ([CED](#)), the Standing Committee of European Doctors ([CPME](#)), the European Medical Students’ Association ([EMSA](#)), the European Patients Forum ([EPF](#)), the European Social Insurance Platform ([ESIP](#)), [EuroHealthNet](#), the European Hospital and Healthcare Federation ([HOPE](#)) and the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union ([PGEU](#)).

Please find attached the agenda of the event. You can **register** by clicking [here](#) only until **27 September 2019**. Due to a limited number of seats, please note that a registration is required.

CPME Board, General Assembly meetings, Helsinki (Finland) 15-16 November 2019

We cordially invite you to register to the meetings using the link below. Please note that 'one participant per registration form' applies.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3kuxTwuTFgq2PxnS0ZJbPvJT3AU1YLJfedSjnKx7r9r1RNA/viewform?usp=sf_link

The meeting schedule:

Thursday, 14 November 2019

18:30 – 21:00: CPME Reception; FMA - Finnish Medical Association Mäkelänkatu 2, FIN-00500 Helsinki
Departure by bus at 18:00 from Sokos Hotel Presidentti

Friday, 15 November 2019

09h30: Members' registration; Sokos Hotel Presidentti Eteläinen Rautatiekatu 4 · 00100 Helsinki

10:00 – 11:30: Special Session on National Reports; Sokos Hotel Presidentti Meeting room Lauri

11:30 – 13:00: CPME Members' Conference on Economy of Wellbeing; Sokos Hotel Presidentti Meeting room Lauri

13:00 – 14:00: Sokos Hotel Presidentti Hotel restaurant

14:00 – 18:00: Working Group meetings, Sokos Hotel Presidentti

19:30 – 22:00: Gala dinner ; 'Panorama Restaurant' Haikaranpesä Haukilahti water tower · Hauenkallio 3 · 02170 Espoo, Finland

Departure by bus at 19:00 from Sokos Hotel Presidentti

Saturday, 16 November 2019

09:30 – 16:00: CPME Board Meeting and CPME General Assembly; Sokos Hotel Presidentti Meeting room Silvy sali

12:30 – 13:30: CPME Lunch, Sokos Hotel Presidentti Hotel restaurant

Recent publications on the CPME website

Members' section:

[Exchange of letters on mutual recognition of professional qualifications and 'no deal' Brexit with Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen and European Parliament President David Sassoli, July/August 2019](#)

[Report on conference 'The Future of Health – Advancing the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Europe', co-hosted by Finnish EU Presidency and Patient Access Partnership \(PACT\), 11-12 July 2019](#)

[2018 Migration Health Annual Report by International Organisation Migration \(IOM\), August 2019](#)

[Joint letter to Czech ministers on tobacco plain packaging – 22 August 2019](#)

[“Improving the nutritional quality of commercial foods for infants and young children” WHO CPevent report, 15.07.2019](#)

[CPME Members’ Briefing on Recent EU Activities on Employment and Working Conditions](#)

CPME News section:

[A new Coalition for Vaccination brings together healthcare professionals](#)

[Medical education should be free from undue influence and conflicts of interest](#)

[CPME signs a joint letter to Politico against tobacco industry sponsorship](#)

[CPME and WMA joint press release on the arrest of health professionals in Turkey](#)