



## CPME MONTHLY BULLETIN

*Stay in the Loop!*

December 2020



*Dear colleagues,*

*We are pleased to share with you the latest edition of the CPME Monthly Bulletin presenting the outcomes of the virtual Executive Committee meeting held on 10 December 2020.*

*Various items were discussed, including nominations to vacant rapporteur ships and the support of the [Manifesto for a European Health Union](#). Unfortunately, we had to decide to turn the General Assembly planned for March 2021 in Tallinn, into a virtual format.*

*We hope the bulletin is informative and we invite you to consult our latest news and the members' section of our [website](#).*

*This being the last edition of the CPME monthly bulletin of 2020, the CPME Secretariat and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a festive holiday season, merry christmas and a good start into the new year.*

*Kind regards – stay healthy!*

*Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery  
CPME President*

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## Executive Committee meeting – 10 December 2020

### Internal affairs

#### Vacant positions of rapporteurs

The Executive Committee appointed Dr Christiaan Keijzer to fill the rapporteur ship on access to medicines and medicine shortages (*Remark: In the meantime, the French Medical Council (CNOM) nominated Dr Jean-François Rault*). Dr Ole Johan Bakke reported that the Norwegian Medical Association is looking for a rapporteur on cancer and Dr Keijzer reported that the Dutch Medical Association will look for a rapporteur on biosimilars. Given its local proximity to ECDC, the Executive Committee suggested asking the Swedish Medical Association to nominate a rapporteur on AMR. The Chair of the WG Pharmaceuticals, Prof. Ludwig will be consulted on the topic of clinical trials until a rapporteur is appointed.

#### General Assembly Tallinn, Estonia

Given the epidemiological situation, the Executive Committee decided to move the next General Assembly 19-20 March 2021 in Tallin (Estonia) to a virtual format.

### Policies

#### Membership in the European Medicines Agency (EMA) Healthcare Professionals' Working Party (HCPWP)

*The Executive Committee appointed Mr Piotr Kolczynski as alternate member of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) healthcare Professionals Working Party (HCPWP) for the remainder of the term.*

Dr Christiaan Keijzer is already the CPME representative in the EMA HCPWP. The alternate position became vacant following the retirement of Dr. Podmaniczky in November 2020.

#### Manifesto for a European Health Union

The Executive Committee decided to support the manifesto by signature of President Frank-Ulrich Montgomery and Secretary General Annabel Seebohm.

#### Vaccine hesitancy

The Executive Committee adopted the CPME draft response to the EU-JAV (EU-Joint Action for Vaccination) survey as amended.

#### Outcome-based health care

The Executive Committee decided that the Working Group on Pharmaceuticals should prepare a CPME position. The Pharmaceutical Working Group will hold a meeting dedicated to this topic in the coming months.

#### CPME Action on Conference on the Future of Europe

*The Executive Committee decided to organize a members' web session on the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).*

Once launched, the CoFoE process is expected to have high political importance. Against the background of the announcement of a European Health Union, the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic has raised questions on EU action and competences in health policy.

### **International CPD Accreditation Standards**

The Executive Committee decided to accept a meeting request by the initiators of the Standards for Substantive Equivalency between Continuing Professional Development / Continuing Medical Education (CPD/CME) Accreditation Systems and report back to the Executive Committee.

### **International calendar**

The Executive Committee decided to move the next Executive Committee meeting on 21 January 2021 into a virtual format, to rediscuss the date of the May EC meeting when all members are present and to keep 16.12.2021 as the December meeting date.

### **Any other business**

*The Executive Committee decided to co-sign the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) draft statement “Transparency is a fundamental pillar for the success of the EU Vaccine Strategy” (which has not yet been published).*

The Executive Committee agreed that the requests are in line with the [Joint Statement on transparency on the EU vaccine negotiations](#), signed by CPME in September 2020. Transparency is key for ensuring confidence and public trust in vaccines and the overall management of the pandemic.

## Monitoring

### The Council of the EU agreed on new emissions reduction target for 2030

On 10 December, the European Council agreed to set a target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 55% compared to 1990 levels by 2030, calling on the co-legislators to reflect this target in the European Climate Law proposal. The EU's current target is to reduce emissions by 40% by 2030. Earlier this year the European Commission proposed to increase this target to a reduction of at least 55%. In autumn, the European Parliament expressed its will to increase this target to 60%.

### European Climate Pact

On 16 December, the European Commission launched the [European Climate Pact](#), an EU-wide initiative inviting people, communities and organizations to participate in climate action and build a greener Europe. The main objectives of the Pact are to spread awareness and support action to tackle climate change and environmental degradation. It aims to connect people and organizations to develop solutions and find ways to influence and change behaviors.

### European Medicines Agency public meeting on COVID-19 (11 December 2020)

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) held a virtual public meeting to explain the processes for the development, evaluation, approval and safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines in the EU, including EMA's specific role. The meeting also gave the opportunity to the public and stakeholder groups to speak and share their needs, expectations and any concerns. You may watch the meeting's video recording and consult all the presentations [here](#).

### European Medicines Agency and Heads of Medicines Agencies joint strategy published

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the [Heads of Medicines Agencies](#) (HMA) have published their [joint strategy](#) for the next five years. The strategy details how the [European medicines regulatory network](#) can continue to enable the supply of safe and effective medicines that meet patients' needs in the face of challenges posed by ever-accelerating developments in science, medicine, digital technologies, globalization as well as emerging health threats, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. CPME [participated](#) in the strategy's consultation in September this year. The network will review the strategy after 18 months to consider if the goals and objectives remain appropriate, and to adjust them if necessary, in the light of the changing environment and ongoing engagement with stakeholders.

## CPME News

### CPME social media

Follow us on:

[Twitter](#)

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### New EU Policy Brief by CPME and the Lancet Countdown

On 7 December, the Lancet Countdown and CPME published the [2020 EU Policy Brief](#) on health and climate change. This year, the brief focuses on infectious disease, city-level climate change and its health-related economic costs. The Lancet Countdown is a multidisciplinary collaboration between 120 experts from more than 35 institutions dedicated to monitoring the evolving health profile of climate change. CPME has been co-publishing the EU policy briefs, which are part of the Lancet Countdown global report, since 2018. Dr Martin Balzan, CPME Rapporteur on Environmental Health, spoke at the launch event.

### EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child

On 8 December, CPME submitted a collective consultation response to the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child (2021-24) together with other NGOs forming the informal group working on “healthy marketing” issues. The response highlights that harmful marketing infringes many of the rights enshrined both in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and in the EU Charter on Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, including the rights to health and adequate food. Please find the response [here](#).

### Green light for the IMMUNION project

The vaccination project proposal of CPME and a number of other stakeholders was accepted by the European Commission. This means that the IMMUNION (“Improving IMMunisation cooperation in the European UNION”) project will start in the beginning of 2021 and run for 2 years. It will be led by EuroHealthNet and other project partners include some of the [Coalition for Vaccination](#) members, the University of Antwerp, and media and IT partners. CPME will be leading one of the work packages to develop the Coalition.

## Recent publications on the CPME Website

### Members' section:

[Report of the Special Working Group Meeting of the DG SANTE Advisory Group on the "Code of Conduct for Responsible Business and Marketing Practices" – 11 December 2020](#)

[CPME Monthly Bulletin – November 2020](#)

### CPME news section

[CPME response to public consultation on Social Europe](#)

[CPME collaborates again with the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change](#)

[WHPA campaign "Stand up for Positive Practice Environments"](#)

[European Doctors back World Medical Association's call for Turkish Government not to dismantle the Turkish Medical Association](#)