

News

**THE 18TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE
HEALTH NETWORK**

Chişinău, Republic of Moldova, May 29 – June 1 2008

In follow up to the recommendations of the 17th meeting of the South-eastern Europe (SEE) Health Network held in Zagreb, Croatia, in December 2007, the Moldovan Presidency together with the Executive Committee and the Secretariat of the SEE Health Network organized the 18th meeting of the SEE Health Network in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 29th of May- 1st of June 2008.

The purpose of the meeting was to review progress of regional projects, discuss issues of regional importance and the future of regional ownership. The dialogue and discussions on public health during the meeting was also aiming to contribute to the WHO Conference on Health Systems, held in Tallin, Estonia, in June 2008, attended by European ministers of health. The meeting also specifically focused on the project on Public Health Services (PHS) in SEE as identified during the evaluation process, on capacities of the health systems for diseases surveillance, prevention and control and on the needs of strengthening the human capacities, including the issues of health workforce mobility.

There has been reviewed the progress of SEE regional projects:

- Enhancing social cohesion through strengthening community mental health services in SEE;
- Strengthening communicable diseases surveillance and response in SEE;
- Strengthening food safety and nutrition services in SEE;
- Public health capacity building for strengthening tobacco control in SEE;
- Increasing regional self-sufficiency in relation to safer blood and blood components;
- Establishing regional networks and systems for the collection and exchange of social and health information;
- Strengthening national capacities for improving maternal and neonatal health in SEE;
- Evaluation of Public Health Services in the SEE.

The meeting was attended by the National Health Coordinators, Executive Committee of the Network, European Commission/DG SANCO, Council of Europe Development Bank, European Investment Bank as well as by all other major partners and donors.

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