
Twenty-first Meeting of the South-eastern Europe Health Network

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Romania, Bucharest, 25-27 June 2009

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

The 21st meeting of SEE Health Network takes place at a time when the Network is undergoing major political, organizational, managerial and technical changes in line with the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the nine SEE governments. The meeting will also play an important role in taking forward the commitments of the SEE ministers of health to the Tallinn Charter¹ and to the Declaration² on “Strengthening health systems by addressing inequalities in SEE”.

The meeting will take place in Bucharest on 25-27 June 2009 and will be attended by the SEE National Health Coordinators, the Executive Committee of the Network, partner countries, representatives of intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, Council of Europe Development Bank, European Commission/DG SANCO, WHO Regional Office for Europe and representatives of other regional initiatives such as the Northern Dimension Partnership for Public Health and Social Well-being.

The purpose of the meeting is to complete the process of handing over to the SEE countries the ownership of the regional cooperation in public health, as laid down by the Dubrovnik and Skopje Pledges and outlined in the “Memorandum of Understanding on the Future of the SEE Health Network”.

In view of the above, the 21st meeting of the SEE Health Network will:

- celebrate the completion of the signing of the MoU and the two Ministerial Declarations (Mental Health, and Implementation of the International Health Regulations) by all SEE countries,
- decide on the location of the seat of the new SEE Health Network Secretariat in the region,
- decide on the designation of Regional Health Development Centres based on proposals from the SEE countries,
- decide on the topic and preparatory process for the upcoming 3rd Ministerial Forum of the Ministers of Health of the SEE in 2010.

¹ WHO European Ministerial Conference on Health Systems: “Health Systems, Health and Wealth”, Tallinn, Estonia, 25–27 June 2008.

² SEEC Health Ministerial Meeting “Achievements and challenges of strengthening health system performance through addressing inequalities in health services in South Eastern Europe”, Chisinau, 7 November 2008.