

Meeting on Youth Friendly Health Policies and Services



Edinburgh, Scotland
United Kingdom
21–23 September 2009



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INTRODUCTION TO MEETING

In recent years, Member States in the WHO European Region have made progress in making health services more responsive to young people's health and development needs, and in creating a supportive policy environment so that services are accessible. Governments are supported in their efforts by the national and international communities, including services providers, bilateral agencies, national and international non-government organisations (NGOs) and United Nations agencies which provide support for various aspects of adolescent health and development work. Within this context, the WHO Regional Office for Europe focuses its support to Member States on strengthening health systems' responsiveness to the health and developmental needs of young people. Particular focus is on the availability and use of evidence-based strategic information, a human rights-based approach for strengthening laws, policies and standards of care, and improving the quality of primary care and school health services, with special emphasis on effectiveness and equity.

Despite ongoing governments' efforts, much more needs to be done before services become widely accessible regardless of young person's socio-economic circumstances. The issues of quality of existing services and coverage with effective interventions still need to be addressed. So far, little effort has been put into enabling primary care practitioners to deliver services that are sensitive to young people's needs, and there is a lack of experience in ways of effectively reaching most at-risk adolescents. The potential of school health services, where available, to contribute effectively to health and development outcomes of school-age children, is under-explored. While the above-mentioned challenges relate more to the ways services for young people are organised, their use might be impeded, too, by prohibitive norms and policies. Countries are therefore encouraged to apply a human rights-based approach in developing and reviewing the legal and policy framework that affects young people's access to health services, with special emphasis on sexual and reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS, and the needs of vulnerable groups.

In line with these developments, and in order to follow up on the recommendations of the WHO meeting of national focal points for family and community health (25–28 September 2006, Malaga, Spain), the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in collaboration with NHS Health Scotland, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) European Network and the European Training in Effective Adolescent Care and Health (EuTEACH) group, has organised this meeting of representatives from Member States in the WHO European Region, United Nations agencies and partner organisations, on youth-friendly health policies and services.

The aim of the meeting is to create a forum for experience-sharing across Member States, and to help move forward government agendas in strengthening health systems to better respond to the health and developmental needs of young people, including those most at risk.

The meeting will focus on interventions to create a supportive legal, policy and regulatory environment for young people's access to health services and strengthening healthcare delivery models, including quality of primary care and school health services, with special emphasis on effectiveness and equity.

PROGRAMME

Sunday, 20 September 2009

17.00–19.00 Registration and informal welcome from hosts
The Apex International Hotel, 31–35 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HS

Monday, 21 September 2009

08.30–09.00 Registration/tea/coffee

09.00–09.40 **Welcome** (Chair: Margaret Burns, NHS Health Scotland)

Opening Ministerial Address (Shona Robison, Member of the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Minister for Public Health and Sport)

09.40–10.00 **Opening Address from WHO. Objectives of the meeting** (Elizabeth Mason, Director, Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development, WHO headquarters; Enis Barış, Director, Division of Country Health Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe)

Day 1

Putting in place a supportive legislative and policy environment for youth-friendly health services: what can we learn from each other?

10.00–10.30 **Adolescent health and development: a global and regional overview**
Role of health systems
(Paul Bloem, WHO headquarters)

10.30–11.00 **The health and socio-cultural issues affecting adolescents in the European Region**
(Candace Currie, Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) International Coordinating Centre)

11.00–11.30 *Coffee break*

11.30–12.00 **Strengthening laws and policies through human rights**
(Marcus Stahlhofer, WHO headquarters)

12.00–13.00 **Exploring the youth perspective on health services**
(Scottish Youth Theatre)

13.00–14.30 *Lunch*

(Afternoon Chair: Gunta Lazdane, WHO Regional Office for Europe)

14.30–16.00 Interactive panel discussion:

Specific experiences from each country on supportive legislative and policy environments

(Chair: Pierre-Andre Michaud, Switzerland)

- Switzerland
- Tajikistan
- United Kingdom
- European Commission
- European Youth Forum

16.00–16.30 *Coffee break*

16.30–17.00 Summing-up and agree recommendations

Tuesday, 22 September 2009

Day 2

Answering the need for quality: youth-friendly health services

- 09.00–09.10 **Overview of the day**
(Chair: Ada Dortch, International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network (IPPF EN))
- 09.10–09.30 **Strengthening health systems for youth-friendly health services**
(Valentina Baltag, WHO Regional Office for Europe)
- 09.30–10.00 **Age-appropriate primary care** (Dick Churchill, United Kingdom)
- 10.00–10.30 Panel (Chair: Trevor Gibbs, United Kingdom (Scotland))
- United Kingdom (Scotland)
 - Ukraine
- 10.30–11.00 **Coffee break**
- 11.00–12.00 Panel (cont.)
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - Sweden
 - Young people/European Youth Forum
- 12.00–13.30 **Lunch**
- 13.30–15.00 **Five tool-based workshops**
(Please see workshop descriptions on separate sheet)
- 15.00–15.30 **Coffee break**
(Afternoon Chair: Rita Khamzayeva, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA))
- 15.30–17.00 Spotlight session:
- Youth-friendly services for all: Are we reaching adolescents most at risk?**
(Chair: Nina Ferencic, UNICEF Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia)
- Integration of services for most-at-risk adolescents across health and social services** (Ukraine)
- What does it take to get services for most-at-risk adolescents youth-friendly?** (Neil Hunt, United Kingdom)
- 17.00–17.30 Summing-up and agree recommendations
- 19.00–21.00 **Scottish Government Ministerial Reception hosted by Nicola Sturgeon, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, and Deputy First Minister for Scotland**
- Royal College of Surgeons
(see invitation in your pack for further details)

Wednesday, 23 September 2009

Day 3

Health care at school: pairing young people with health services

- 09.00–09.10 **Introduction** (Chair: Olivier Duperrex, France)
- 09.10–09.30 **Organisation of school health services in the WHO European Region: results of the survey** (Miriam Levi, Italy)
- 09.30–10.00 **Evidence-based interventions in school health services**
(Sven Bremberg, Sweden)
- 10.00–10.30 Panel:
- Countries' examples in aligning school health services with needs**
(Chair: Vivian Barnekow, WHO Regional Office for Europe)
- Panel
- Denmark
 - Republic of Moldova
 - United Kingdom
 - SHE (Schools for Health in Europe)
- 10.30–11.00 [Coffee break](#)
- 11.00–12.00 Panel (cont.) and discussion
- 12.00–12.40 **Human resources for adolescent health**
(Chair: Virginia Camacho, WHO headquarters)
- 12.00–12.20 **Professional workforce in adolescent medicine: European countries profiles**
(Susanne Stronski, European Union for School and University Health and Medicine (EUSUHM))
- 12.20–12.40 **What are the professional skills required?** (Russell Viner, United Kingdom)
- 12.40–13.00 Discussion
- 13.00–14.00 [Lunch](#)
- 14.00–15.30 **Meeting recommendations**
(Chair: Gunta Lazdane, WHO Regional Office for Europe)
- breakout sessions
 - youth voices
- 15.30–16.00 Closing remarks

SPEAKER PROFILES (listed in alphabetical order)

Valentina Baltag

Valentina Baltag works in the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in the Division of Country Health Systems. She is responsible for programme development and countries' support in the area of primary care and family and community health, with specific focus on adolescent health. After a career in clinical practice and clinical research, she specialised in health systems management and public health issues in reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health. She worked in several countries in economic transition in the WHO European region including Central Asia. In her current position she focuses on technical support in developing and implementing policies, strategies and tools to strengthen primary healthcare effectiveness, responsiveness to clients' needs and capacity to deliver age-appropriate services.

Enis Barış

Enis Barış, a Turkish and Canadian national, is Director of the Division of Country Health Systems at the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization. Enis Barış is a Medical Doctor with graduate degrees in public health (MSc) and epidemiology (PhD), with specialisation in health services. Previously, he was Senior Public Health Specialist at the World Bank where he worked for many years on health sector reforms in the regions of East Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, and more recently, the Middle East and North Africa. Before joining the World Bank in 1999, he was Senior Policy Advisor at the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa, Canada. He has a wide range of experience in both development and research in over 30 countries. He is author or editor of several books and numerous peer-reviewed and policy papers on macroeconomic adjustment policies and health sector reform, decentralisation and health services management, to name a few. In addition to his work in health systems, Enis Barış has a keen and long-standing interest in lung health, especially with regard to mainstreaming disease-specific programmes and designing intersectoral interventions.

Vivian Barnekow

Vivian Barnekow works in the Division of Country Health Systems in WHO, Regional Office for Europe. She started her professional career as a teacher, later becoming education adviser on health promotion programmes dealing with lifestyles, alcohol and drugs. Having completed postgraduate education in health promotion, she started working for WHO 15 years ago. Her main involvement for many years was with the European Network of Health Promoting Schools (ENHPS) where she was responsible for the Technical Secretariat. The focus of her work now is coordination of child and adolescent activities in the European Region, and in particular the implementation of the European Strategy for Child and Adolescent Health and Development in a large number of countries in Europe. She is the WHO focal point for the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children survey.

Kristina Berg Kelly

MD, PHD and Associate Professor of the Medical Faculty, Goteborg University, Sweden
International Independent Consultant in Adolescent Health. Former medical director of Paediatric Internal Medicine at The Queen Silvia Children's Hospital, Goteborg, Sweden. Former member of the Children's Ombudsman's Council of experts for ten years, appointed by the government. I am a specialist in paediatrics and an associate professor of the medical faculty at Göteborg University. I trained for one year as a fellow in adolescent medicine at UCSF in San Francisco. Most of my professional career I have worked with young people as the head of outpatient clinics and the emergency room in a city hospital, and at The Queen Silvia Children's Hospital. I have worked with physically disabled children, with young people in primary care in a poor area, and with patients with different chronic diseases, mostly diabetes. For many years I also worked as a consulting school health physician. For ten years I also worked with bio-ethics, for the Children's hospital and the Ethics forum for the University hospitals. My research has been focused on epidemiological studies on young people's health and determinants of ill health and with chronic diseases. I am a member of the EuTeach network (www.euteach.com) which promotes teaching of adolescent medicine at postgraduate levels for Europe and other interested parties. I give courses in adolescent medicine in Sweden but also for different NGOs and health promoting agencies such as the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Paul Bloem

Paul Bloem is a Dutch national who has worked for the past 14 years for the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development in WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Previously, Mr Bloem worked for UNICEF in Guatemala as monitoring and evaluation officer, on health promotion in a Costa Rican NGO and as a research fellow in the National Institute of Preventive Health care (TNO/NIPG) in the Netherlands. Mr Bloem holds a masters degree in Health Sciences from the Free University in Amsterdam and recently obtained an MBA from Keele University, England.

As a technical officer for WHO he has worked on research and epidemiology of adolescent health; adolescent health policy; and the development and measurement of adolescent friendly health services. Between 2000 and 2008, Mr Bloem was focal point for the European Region and provided technical support to countries in the region in collaboration with his colleagues from the European Office in Copenhagen.

Ina K. Borup

Ina K. Borup DrPH is associate professor at the Nordic School of Public Health (NHV). Her research is based in health promotion, mainly on schoolchildren's health, health behaviour, their learning potential via a health dialogue, and their contact to the school health nurse. The focus is on the children's perspective. She uses quantitative as well as qualitative research methods, especially Grounded Theory. She is a member of the Greenlandic team in the international Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) research group.

She is one of the initiators' of the Nordic Health Promotion Research Network based at NHV, and convener of the 6th Nordic Health Promotion Research Conference: 'The Role of Health Promotion in the Transition of the Nordic Welfare States', that NHV hosted in August 2009 in Gothenburg, Sweden.

In 2001 she was convener of the 11th Biennial School Nurses International Conference: 'Child health promotion 21, the child's perspective', which took place in Denmark.

Sven Bremberg

Sven Bremberg, MD PhD, is Director of the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Mental Health at the Swedish National Institute of Public Health, and Associate Professor at the Department of Public Health, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. His major fields of scientific interest are evaluation and development of child and adolescent public health interventions, studies of inequality in child health, and analysis of the dissemination process at municipal level of child health policies. He has published several scientific papers on school health service and written a book on this subject (in Swedish) that is widely used. At the National Institute of Public Health, he is responsible for development of child and adolescent public health indicators, based on the national public health targets, for systematic reviews of interventions that are relevant for child and adolescent public health and for a governmental commission to propose new measures for mental health promotion.

Goof Buijs

Goof Buijs (1954) is the manager of the Schools for Health in Europe network (SHE network) and is employed by the Netherlands Institute for Health Promotion (NIGZ). He graduated at Wageningen University in Human Nutrition (1980) and started his career as teacher trainer in health science at the Free University teacher trainer institute in Amsterdam. He has worked in the area of school health promotion since 1985, first for a period of nine years at the Amsterdam Health Education Bureau, and since 1995 on a national and international level at NIGZ. He is the author of the Dutch healthy school method (2005) and was coordinator of the NIGZ school programme. He has been involved the European for health promoting schools since 1996 as the Dutch national coordinator for the ENHPS. NIGZ had been acting as a WHO collaborating centre for school health promotion since 2008.

Goof is project manager of the HEPS project, a European project on promoting healthy eating and physical activity in schools.

Andy Bruce

Andy Bruce is team leader for the Scottish Government's Health Improvement and Health Inequalities team, which is responsible for the implementation of Equally Well, Scotland's strategy for tackling health inequalities. His previous post in the Scottish Government was in the Children, Young People and Social Care directorate, working on the implementation of a change programme for social work services. Prior to joining the Scottish Government, Andy spent five years working for the Ministry of Defence in London and Cyprus, before moving to Edinburgh in 2005 to join a schools-based charity delivering an alternative curriculum to disaffected young people. Away from work, Andy has recently become a member of the Children's Panel, Scotland's unique system for dealing with children in need of care and protection.

Margaret Burns

Margaret Burns CBE has many years' experience working for consumer organisations such as the Scottish Consumer Council and Consumer's Association. For 9 years, until March 2007, she was a member of the Health and Safety Commission and Chair of the Partnership for Health and Safety in Scotland. She is currently a member of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management. She was appointed Chair of NHS Health Scotland on 3 December 2007.

Virginia Camacho

Alma Virginia Camacho is the Medical Officer/Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. She is an M.D. and Ob/Gyn with an MPH from the School of Public Health of the Johns Hopkins University. Over the past 20 years she has been involved with reproductive health programs at non-governmental and governmental levels. For nine years from 1999, Dr. Camacho worked as the regional adviser of the Regional Maternal Mortality Initiative at the Headquarters office of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, DC. Also she was the technical secretariat of the Inter Agency Regional Task Force for Maternal Mortality Reduction. Prior to working at PAHO, she was the Director of Reproductive Health at the Ministry of Public Health in Bolivia. She has written several publications on safe motherhood and reproductive health as well as in maternal mortality surveillance.

Peter Chell

Peter Chell is the FE Advisor, Children & Young People's Public Health Programme, Department of Health. He has worked within the National Healthy Schools Programme since its inception in 1999. He has worked as a Healthy Schools lead in local government, in regional government and within the national delivery unit at the Department of Health. Peter's professional qualifications include an MSc in Health Promotion. Peter is currently working as the Further Education Advisor to Children and Young People's Public Health Programme within the Department of Health, with specific responsibility for developing the Healthy Further Education Programme. Peter brings a breadth of experience in policy development and implementation through his work with local authorities, primary care trusts, children's trusts, further education providers and government offices.

Dick Churchill

Dick Churchill is Chair of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Adolescent Health Group. He works as a general practitioner in Nottingham, England, as well as being Associate Clinical Professor of Primary Care and Director of Clinical Skills at the University of Nottingham Medical School. In addition to providing routine primary health care for young people within a general practice setting, Dick has undertaken research into adolescent health and mental health in primary care, contributed to the development of training materials for GPs and practices, and represented the RCGP on child and young people's health issues at policy level. Dick was a founder member and trustee of the UK Association for Young People's Health. He is also co-editor of the new E-Learning for Healthcare e-learning package on Adolescent Health.

Candace Currie

Candace Currie holds a Personal Chair in Child and Adolescent Health at the University of Edinburgh, where she is founding Director of the Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit (CAHRU; www.education.ed.ac.uk/cahru) established in 2000. CAHRU is dedicated to improving understanding of child and adolescent health in Scotland while taking a broad international perspective. Studies include projects that focus on cross-national comparisons as well as the evaluation of health-related programmes and interventions. Particular attention is given to young people's perceptions and the influence of the social and developmental context. Since 1989, Candace has been Principal Investigator for Scotland of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children study: WHO Collaborative Cross-National Study (www.hbsc.org) and elected International Coordinator of the HBSC Study since 1995. The HBSC study began in 1983 as collaboration between three countries and today includes 43 member countries and a network of over 250 researchers in Europe and North America. The HBSC International Coordinating Centre is based at CAHRU. Candace's primary research interests are in socio-economic inequalities in adolescent health, in puberty and health and in the development of biosocial perspectives on adolescent health; she is also dedicated to the dissemination of research to inform and influence policy and practice for young people's health improvement. Candace was awarded an OBE for services to health care in 2008.

Ada Dortch

Ada Dortch is a Programme Officer and youth focal point at the International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network (IPPF EN). She is part of the team that supports the grant-receiving Member Associations in developing and monitoring their programmes. Additionally, she is responsible for the coordination of regional youth projects.

Prior to working at IPPF EN, Ada Dortch worked in the field with NGOs in the area of sexual and reproductive health; particularly with women working in prostitution and victims/survivors of sexual assault. She holds a Masters degree in Social Sciences focusing on Gender, Sexuality and Society.

Olivier Duperrex

Medical head of school health services for Canton de Vaud, Olivier Duperrex trained as a paediatrician in Switzerland and completed an MSc in community paediatrics at the Institute of Child Health in London in 1998. He also collaborated and taught with the Centre for Evidence-based Child Health at the same institution. He has spent the last ten years conducting projects and research in school settings and contributed to bringing a better-informed approach in school health in Geneva with Paul Bouvier. Olivier is also the medical reference for a home visiting programme by nurses. With his academic hat on, he teaches in a MAS in Public Health and conducts systematic reviews in the injuries field.

Nina Ferencic

Nina Ferencic holds a University degree in sociology, a Masters in communication research and a PhD in communication, arts and sciences from the Annenberg School of Communications, University of Pennsylvania, USA. After working as a researcher and teaching assistant on communication and development, she joined the WHO Global Programme on AIDS as a monitoring and evaluation specialist working for the Health Promotion Unit, and subsequently the Department of Research and Intervention Development. She joined UNAIDS from its inception in 1996. As the UNAIDS Regional Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, she was responsible for the development of policies, programmes and partnerships and has led several key initiatives, including the establishment of the Pan-Caribbean Partnership against HIV/AIDS and the strengthening of networks of women living with HIV/AIDS. In March 2005 Nina was appointed Team Leader of the Financial Initiatives Support team where she was in charge of strengthening collaboration between UNAIDS and the Global Fund and coordinating technical support to countries for implementation of programs to 'make the money work'. In July 2006, Nina joined UNICEF where she has been working as Senior Regional Advisor on HIV/AIDS and Young People's Health, Development and Participation at the UNICEF Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office. Nina is fluent in English, Spanish, French and Croatian.

Trevor Gibbs

Trevor Gibbs has spent most of his working background as a Principal in General Practice, while maintaining a passion for the educational development of primary care. As a working GP he shaped the concept of the practice nurse and nurse practitioner, while introducing structured sabbaticals and other educational opportunities for general practitioners. He took a national lead role for small-practice pilot projects during Fundholding, while introducing the concept of the Senior Registrar in GP vocational training. His university-based academic career began in 1996, when he was appointed as Director of Community Studies at Liverpool Medical School. While there he developed the largest undergraduate community-based programme in the UK. He spent four years as the Director of Medical Education in Cape Town, South Africa and one year in the same role in Bahrain, Arabian Gulf, before taking up a Chair in St Andrews. After spending a year at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, facilitating the development of family medicine, he has recently been appointed as Consultant in Primary Care and Family Medicine to Ukraine. His interest in international medical education means that he holds the positions of the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Scotland Executive in International Affairs, Educational Consultant to the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE), and Educational Consultant to WHO.

Neil Hunt

Neil Hunt (MSc Social Research) is an Honorary Senior Research Associate at the European Institute for of Social Services, University of Kent, Honorary Research Fellow with the Centre for Research on Drugs and Health Behaviour, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Director of Research for the treatment agency KCA (UK). He also works as a freelance researcher and trainer. A founding director of the UK Harm Reduction Alliance, his work has covered issues including injecting and risk, understanding drug trends, peer influence and young people, clubbers' drug use, human rights and drug user involvement. He developed the 'Break the Cycle' intervention to reduce injecting that has been disseminated nationally by the Department of Health. Currently, he is advising on adaptations of the programme in Canada and within Europe.

Bojan Jovanovski

Bojan Jovanovski (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) has been the Executive Director of HERA (Health Education and Research Association) since 2007. From 2004 to 2007 he was the Project Coordinator of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) project on sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Balkan and was involved in HERA from 2000 as a trainer for peer education and HIV/AIDS counsellor. He took part in the preparatory processes in the latest National Strategy for Adolescent Health and Development and National HIV/AIDS strategy, and holds a certificate from the Ministry of Health (MoH) as a trainer for youth-friendly health services. At present he is taking part in the MoH expert group for the development of the National Strategy for Sexual and Reproductive Health. His work in HERA has concentrated on advocating for sexual and reproductive health and rights in the national policies to bring about implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and to ensure full participation of the civil society sector in the policymaking processes and in the national programmes targeting HIV/AIDS and SRHR. Bojan Jovanovski is a member of the Country Coordinative mechanism to fight HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

Daniel Kalajdjieski

Daniel Kalajdjieski is a youth volunteer from Health Education and Research Association (HERA)

- Working in the SRHR field for seven years.
- Volunteers with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) EN MA in The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as youth group leader, doing campaign work and peer education.
- International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) EN Youth Sexual Awareness for Europe (YSAFE) volunteer for three years and chairperson of the YSAFE steering committee.

Rita Khamzayeva

Rita Khamzayeva is the Programme Technical Adviser on Reproductive Health and Rights in the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Regional Office of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. She is an MD and Ob/Gyn with an MPA and MSc in public health management. Rita has worked in the area of reproductive health for the past seventeen years at governmental and non-governmental organisations mainly in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Prior to joining UNFPA, she worked at International Youth Foundation as the Director of Health Programmes, managing a project on the integration of adolescent reproductive health into youth employability and education programmes in India, Tanzania and the Philippines. She also worked for the International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network (IPPF EN) as Programme Officer, and Pathfinder International as Programme Manager in Kazakhstan.

Gunta Lazdane

Gunta Lazdane is an obstetrician and gynaecologist, Ph.D and has been Professor, Head of University Department in Riga Stradina University, Latvia. She has been working in the WHO Regional Office for Europe and as Regional Adviser for Reproductive Health and Research in the Country Policies and Systems unit since 2003. She is assisting 53 WHO Member States in the European Region to improve sexual and reproductive health of population.

Gunta Lazdane has been the President of Latvia's Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health 'Papardes zieds' for several years and the Chairperson of the Membership Committee of the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

She is the Chief Editor of the European Magazine on Sexual and Reproductive Health *Entre Nous* and member of several Editorial Boards of peer review journals.

Miriam Levi

Miriam Levi (MD) was born in Florence, Italy, in 1978. She graduated in Medicine in 2005 at the University of her hometown. Since 2006, she has been a resident in Hygiene and Preventive Medicine at the Department of Public Health of the University of Florence. She will specialise in October 2009. In spring 2009 she conducted, as part of her internship at the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, a survey on the different models of school health services organization in the WHO European Region Member States.

Olga Makarova

Olga is a youth volunteer from Spolecnost pro planovani rodiny a sexualni vychovu (SPRSV)

- International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) EN youth volunteer with Youth Sexual Awareness for Europe (YSAFE) for 2 years, working as youth advocate in ODA advocacy and attending annual meetings.
 - Active youth volunteer with IPPF EN member association (MA) in the Czech Republic as peer educator and is working on an advocacy related project.
 - Interested in speaking with young people from different countries and cultures about their opinions.
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Elizabeth Mason

Elizabeth Mason took up her current post as Director of WHO's Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Development in September 2004. She leads a team of more than 100 professional staff at WHO headquarters, regional offices and in many countries.

Elizabeth Mason is a specialist in Public Health – Maternal and Child Health, and spent 24 years living and working in the African region. She worked for 13 years in Zimbabwe, initially at district level with the NGO OXFAM, then with the Ministry of Health at Provincial and National levels. She subsequently worked for 11 years in Africa with WHO, initially in the inter-country office for Southern Africa, then in the Regional Office, Harare, as Regional Adviser for Child and Adolescent Health.

She qualified in Medicine from the University of Leeds, in the UK, and holds an MSc in Community Medicine from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where she is now a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health.

Pierre-André Michaud

Pierre-André Michaud, MD, is full Professor and head of the Multidisciplinary Unit for Adolescent Health (Department of Paediatrics, University Hospital Lausanne, Switzerland (www.umsa.ch). He has also been Vice Dean of the Medical Faculty of Lausanne since 2007. His activities have focused on healthcare delivery to adolescents as well as the epidemiology of health and lifestyles of adolescents, including areas such as mental health, eating disorders, sexuality and ethics. He has also developed a public health activity and works with the World Health Organization, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNICEF as a temporary adviser. He is the initiator and coordinator of the European Training in Adolescent Care and Health (EuTEACH) initiative (www.euteach.com), a training programme in the field of adolescent medicine and health.

Galina Morari

Galina Morari was born on 19 October, 1963. She graduated from the pediatric faculty of the State Medical University in 1987. During 1987–88 she passed through the internship programme in paediatrics within Soroca district hospital. During the period of 1988–91, Galina worked in specialist paediatrics, and then between 1991 and 1993, she was the specialist paediatric in reanimatology within the same hospital. At the beginning of 1993 Galina started to have administration responsibilities, being appointed as Deputy Head of the Obstetrics and Paediatric department at Soroca District Hospital. Galina held this position for six years and in 1999 was nominated as Deputy Director of the Health Division of Soroca. From 2002 until the present time, she has worked at the Ministry of Health as Deputy Head of the Mother and Child Department. Galina also became student of Administration Academy of Presidency of RM, faculty of Public Administration (2001–2003).

Galina Morari is a skilled manager and implemented a number of projects that had a positive influence on mother and child health in the country: national programmes on child nutrition, family planning and reproductive health, medical genetics and perinatology. Through her work she promoted the WHO Strategies: Making Pregnancy Safer, CIMC, and the coordinated development of the youth-friendly health services in Moldova.

Valentina B. Pedan

Valentina B. Pedan was born in 1952 in the Ternopil region of Ukraine to a doctor and a teacher. In 1978 she graduated from Dnepropetrovsk Medical Institute, Department of Paediatrics. After graduation she worked as a primary care paediatrician for one year and as a Chief of Children's Service at Zaporozhskiy Rayon Central Hospital for five years. In 1984–1986 Valentina Pedan finished a paediatrics clinical residency at Zaporozhskiy State Medical University. After graduation Valentina worked in the following posts: Deputy Chief Physician at polyclinic of Zaporozhskiy Clinical Oblast Hospital for Children; Chief Paediatrician of the Health Department at Zaporozhskaya Regional State Administration; Deputy Chief Physician for clinical care at Zaporozhskiy City Clinical Hospital for Children. Valentina has the highest qualification category of paediatrics and health management.

Since 1999 Valentina has worked at the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and is currently Deputy Director of the Department of Motherhood, Childhood and Sanatorium Provision. She supervised international projects on children's health issues.

Sherali Rahmatulloev

Sherali Rahmatulloev graduated from the paediatric department of the Tajik State Medical University in 1978. From 1978 to 1982 he was working with the district medical college as a tutor. In 1982 he joined the Central District Hospital of Vahdat district as a head of the child department. In 1988 Sherali Rahmatulloev was promoted to the position of deputy chief doctor of Central District Hospital. Sherali Rahmatulloev was actively involved in implementation and coordination of different maternal and child health programmes during his work as a main specialist of the Ministry of Health (1997–1999) and as deputy head of the health department of Dushanbe city (1999–2008). Currently Sherali Rahmatulloev is working as Head of the Department of health services for mothers, children and family planning of the Ministry of Health of Tajikistan. Since 1997 Sh. Rahmatulloev is a national coordinator of the programme 'Promoting of breastfeeding in the Republic of Tajikistan'. He is the author of more than 30 articles and guidelines, including Law of the Republic of Tajikistan On protection of the natural feeding (2006).

Sh. Rahmatulloev is a doctor of higher category and he has been awarded a medal for his professional achievements.

Shona Robison

Shona Robison was born in Redcar in 1966. Educated at Alva Academy, she went on to graduate from Glasgow University with a Social Sciences MA, and from Jordanhill College with a Postgraduate Certificate in Community Education. Previously she worked for Glasgow City Council's Social Work Department.

She was Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for the North East from 1999–2003 and elected MSP for Dundee East in 2003. Latterly she was Shadow Minister for Health and Social Justice and a member of the Parliament's Health Committee before being appointed Minister for Public Health in the Scottish Government formed after the May 2007 election.

She is married with a daughter and lives in Dundee.

Kalle Johaness Rose

Kalle Johaness Rose is a youth volunteer from Sex & Samfund.

- Studying a Masters in Business Administration and Commercial law with a specialty in EU law.
- Volunteers with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) EN MA in Denmark doing campaign work and organises the year event at the Roskilde Festival.
- IPPF EN YSAFE volunteer for 1 year and member of the YSAFE steering committee.
- Interested in the development of sex culture and diversity within EU countries compared with the non-EU countries and combined with the progress in the initiatives formed by the EU-law as well as the other way around. For example, the progress in the understanding of discrimination of races, sex, sexual orientation, etc. where the European Union has a continual legislation development.

Richard Sangster

Richard Sangster joined as Head of the Healthy Schools Programme, Children & Young People's Public Health Programme in September 2008. As Healthy Schools is a joint Department of Health and Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF), Richard is seconded through the DCSF and based one day a week within their Pupil Wellbeing and Health and Safety unit. Richard works across both government departments to embed the Healthy Schools Programme in both national health and education developments.

Richard has successfully steered the programme to become the key delivery vehicle for the wellbeing elements of the 21st century school system as outlined in the DCSF (2007) Children's Plan and its white paper in June 2009.

Scottish Youth Theatre

SYT is Scotland's National Theatre 'for and by' young people, operating all year round, and across the nation. We provide appropriate, accessible participation in high-quality theatre arts for those aged 2 to 25, and have a growing international reputation, bolstered by performances in St. Petersburg, Dublin, and New York. This latest collaboration with NHS Health Scotland follows on from other groundbreaking projects such as 'Dying For It' – a highly acclaimed play about sexual health for teenagers (scripts and education packs still available). In line with company policy, the sketches presented today were developed with the assistance of the young participants.

Marcus Stahlhofer

Marcus Stahlhofer is Human Rights Adviser for the Department of Child and Adolescent Health (CAH) at the World Health Organization's Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. He coordinates the work of the Department and WHO in the area of children's rights, and is responsible for the integration and application of international human rights norms and standards to various aspects of the Organization's work on child and adolescent health. His work ranges from training of WHO staff, government officials and health professionals to developing and implementing rights-based guidelines lines and tools to strengthen national legal and policy environments to support child and adolescent health policies and programmes. Prior to his post with WHO, Mr Stahlhofer worked as a volunteer and human rights advocate in refugee camps in Croatia during the armed conflict in 1993, and worked at UNAIDS as associate human rights adviser. He holds degrees in international human rights protection and international relations, with specialisation in international human rights law, from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and the University of Kent at Canterbury.

Susanne M. Stronski

Susanne Stronski is a paediatrician, Master of Public Health, and a specialist in adolescent medicine
Current Position: Head, School Medical Services, City of Zürich, Switzerland

Memberships (selection):

Member, Executive Committee EUSUHM (European Union for School and University Health and Medicine)
Member of the European Training in Adolescent Care and Health (EuTEACH) Team Member, National Commission on Vaccination Recommendations, Switzerland
Past President, Swiss Association for Adolescent Health

Training:

Paediatric Residency at the University Children's Hospitals of Berne and Lucerne/Switzerland (1987–1991)
Fellowship in Adolescent Medicine 1995–1998 University of Minneapolis (USA)
Master of Public Health, Graduation 1998, University of Minneapolis, USA

Professional experience:

- 2002 to present: Head, School Medical Services, City of Zürich, Switzerland
- 1999–2001: Project Coordinator EuTEACH, Unité Multidisciplinaire de santé des Adolescents et Groupe de Recherche Santé Adolescents, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
- 1999–2001 (Part time) Consultant in Adolescent Medicine at the Unit for Adolescent Psychiatry, University Hospital of Berne, Switzerland
- 1992–1995 Consultant Neonatology Women's University Hospital Berne, Switzerland

Teaching commitments (selection):

EuTEACH international summer school
Swiss School of Public Health

Nicola Sturgeon

Born in Irvine in 1970 and educated at Greenwood Academy, Nicola Sturgeon studied law at the University of Glasgow, where she graduated with LLB (Hons) and Diploma in Legal Practice. Before entering the Scottish Parliament she worked as a solicitor in the Drumchapel Law and Money Advice Centre in Glasgow.

She was elected Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for Glasgow in 1999, and is now MSP for Govan. Before being appointed Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing after the May 2007 election, she had been Shadow Minister for Education, Health & Community Care and Justice.

Julie Teng

Julie Teng is a French national and the Executive Policy Officer of the European Youth Forum, the platform of youth organisations in Europe which represents 99 national youth councils and international youth organisations. She is specifically in charge of youth mainstreaming and policy coordination, as well as sustainable development and health.

In the course of her work, she was part of the steering committee set up by the French Presidency and which contributed to the drafting of the Resolution on Health and Wellbeing in Europe adopted during the French Presidency, and has been supporting the European Commission in the organisation of the Youth and Health Conference which took place in July 2009 in Brussels. The Youth Forum has developed policies and positions on alcohol and tobacco and on the health and wellbeing of young people and is recognised as a key stakeholder in the field of health in Europe.

Julie has previously worked for Greenpeace International in Amsterdam and holds a Masters degree in International Cooperation, Development and Humanitarian Aid from the Sorbonne in Paris.

Stefano Vettorazzi

Stefano Vettorazzi works for the European Commission Directorate General for Health and Consumers, in the Directorate of Public Health and Risk Assessment.

Russell Viner

Russell Viner is an academic paediatrician and adolescent physician at the University College London (UCL) Institute of Child Health in London. He set up the first Adolescent Medicine Service in the UK jointly between Great Ormond St Hospital for Children and University College London Hospitals, and works clinically in adolescent diabetes and endocrinology and obesity. Viner works as a consultant on adolescent health for the Departments of Health and of Education in the UK, and for the WHO internationally. His research interests focus on the implications of adolescent development for physical and mental health in adolescence, particularly around obesity, health risk behaviours (alcohol, smoking and drug use), health services for young people, and the clinical management of obesity and diabetes in children and young people. He has over 100 published papers in international journals and a lifetime grant income of >£3 million.