



Plenary meeting of Committee 2

Pécs, Baranya-H, 29th–30th March 2007

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Original English

Document for **information**

Mandate of the AER E-he@lth network

Adopted at the occasion of the E-health Seminar

15th February June 2007, Brussels (B)

Aims

The aim of the network is to create a platform where regions can engage in interregional cooperation projects to develop e-health tools and where they can contribute to European Union policies on e-health.

Objectives

- Raise awareness and disseminate knowledge on the potential of e-health
- Gather information on existing tools and policies and carry out studies
- Work together with other regions and partners and coordinate our e-health tools and strategies
- Stimulate the development of products and services for the commercial market
- Encourage research and education in the e-health sector

Themes to be explored

- How could regions organise an e-health network and develop a chain of health actors?
- How can regions develop the necessary e-health tools?
- How can regions overcome interoperability issues?
- What are the opportunities and strategies for training health personnel in e-health technologies and creating informed patients who can fully benefit from e-health technologies?
- How can we identify the needs of patients and health care personnel and how can e-health respond to these needs?

Membership

All AER member regions are welcome to join the network, whether they have already developed e-health tools and policies in their territories or not.

Membership is also open to organisations operating within an AER member region and under the direction of the regional authorities.

The network acknowledges the need to develop far-reaching partnerships with a variety of actors. We are therefore interested in working, as the case may be, with:

- Personnel within the health sector and their associations
- IT experts within regions and medical institutions
- IT companies
- Universities and centres of excellence with established expertise in eHealth standards, health informatics and medical technology

All entities wishing to contribute to the network will be invited to participate on an *ad hoc* basis.

Chair of the network

The network will be chaired and represented by a politician of an AER member region that is active in the field of e-health and willing to commit the necessary resources to promote the group's work.

Agneta Granström, County Councillor of Norrbotten (S), has expressed her interest in chairing the network. The region of Norrbotten (S) launched the issue of e-health within the AER and organised a conference entitled "E-health: around the clock care for everyone, everywhere" on 9-10 June 2006 in Piteå (Norrbotten, S)

Working Methods

Meetings

The network will meet at least two times per year, at the occasion of the meetings of the AER "Social Policy & Public Health" Committee.

Network meetings can take place at separate occasions, should the members so wish and subject to the availability of financial resources.

The e-health network will operate within the framework of the AER "Social Policy & Public Health" Committee (Committee 2). The documents and policy positions it adopts will be forwarded for approval to the members of Committee 2.

Working Languages

The working language of the network will be English. No simultaneous interpretation is provided during network meetings nor are documents translated.

