

## “What’s new, Committee 2?” Health – December 2007

### Health

#### EU HEALTH POLICY FORUM, 28 NOVEMBER 2007

The European Health Policy Forum (EHPF) is a biannual meeting between the European Commission-DG SANCO (Health & Consumer Protection) and European health stakeholders. It is an opportunity to learn about and debate latest European initiatives that have an impact on health policy.

All documents and presentations for this meeting are available on the AER website:

<http://www.a-e-r.org/en/home-en/main-issues/health/ehpf.html>

**Please note:** *Access is restricted to AER members only. You need to login to be able to see and download these documents. If you do not have your access codes, please click on the following link and request a new access:*

<http://www.a-e-r.org/en/home-en/menu-icomes/my-profile/user-account/new-access.html>

#### Reforming the Budget, Changing Europe

The European Commission is currently debating the future of the European Budget. Should Europe keep the same budget lines and policy priorities? Should we continue with national rebates? How can we change the way the EU is financed?

The deadline for contributions is 15 April 2008. The AER Committee 2 will launch an internal consultation of its members on this issue.

Further information on EU finances can be found at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/budget/reform/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/budget/reform/index_en.htm)

#### Sanco’s Future Challenges paper 2009-2014

DG SANCO has undergone an extensive internal reflection exercise to identify what it feels are the key challenges for EU health and consumer protection policy during the life of the next Commission (2009-2014).

The paper has so far been criticised as having too heavy a focus on consumers and market-driven policy. Stakeholders have suggested that a more general approach is adopted, which better reflects the reality and needs of health policy and patients.

Give your opinion! The consultation is open until end December 2007. Further information at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health\\_consumer/events/future\\_challenges\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/events/future_challenges_en.htm)

#### The New EU Health Strategy

The European Health Strategy has been published! The AER requests for a renewed emphasis on the potential of ehealth, the need to analyse the economic impact of health, and the need to mainstream health across other policy areas are all included in the new Strategy.

For further information:

[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_overview/overview\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_overview/overview_en.htm)

#### Health Services: update

The draft Directive on Cross-border health services should be published shortly-it should be up for adoption at the upcoming meeting of the European Commissioners. This Directive aims to clarify the situation regarding the provision and reimbursement of cross-border health care. Although it does not aim to harmonise health services across Europe, its actual impact remains to be evaluated.