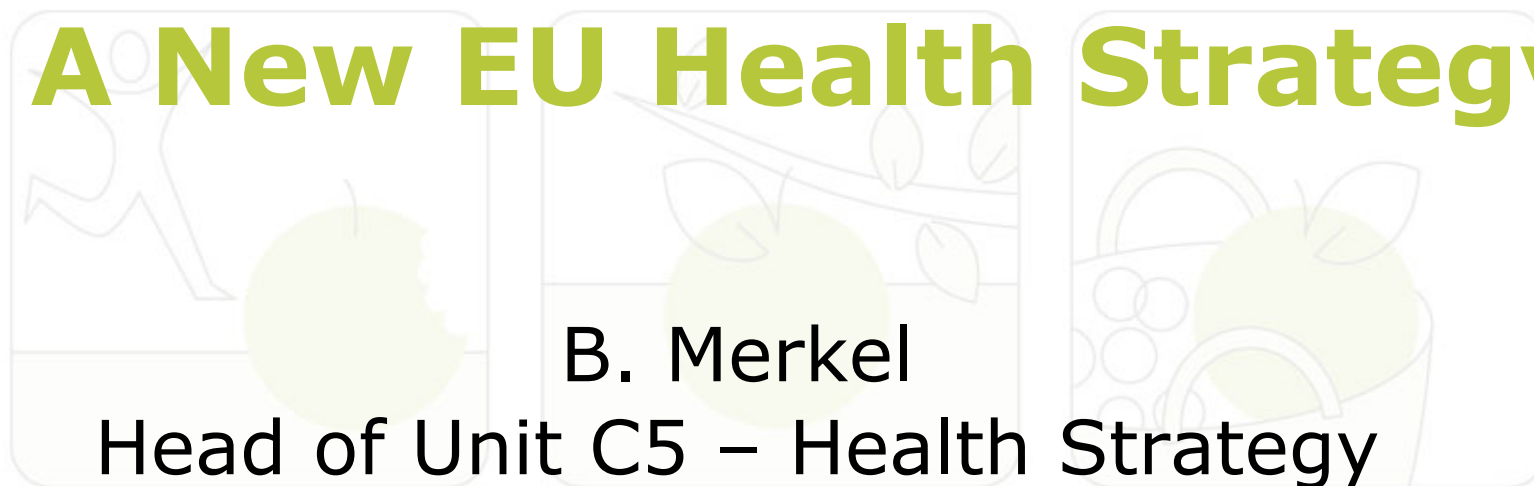




“Together for Health”: A New EU Health Strategy



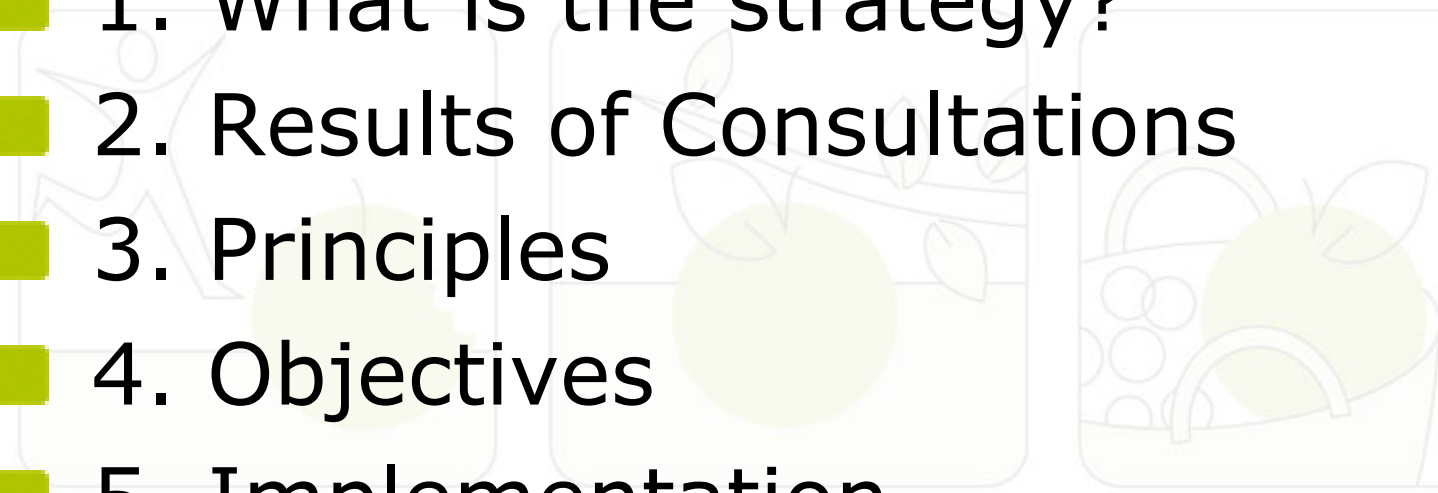
B. Merkel

Head of Unit C5 – Health Strategy

European Commission

Health Policy Forum
28 November 2007

Today's presentation

- 1. What is the strategy?
 - 2. Results of Consultations
 - 3. Principles
 - 4. Objectives
 - 5. Implementation
 - 6. Next Steps
 - 7. Involvement of stakeholders
- 



1. What is the Strategy?

- Together for Health: work across policies, across Institutions, and with all key players
- Comprehensive framework that brings together many EU policies to work towards health goals
- Aims to set the general direction and priorities
- Aims to complement and provide added value to national policy with a framework to work together on shared objectives
- The Strategy is not an Action Plan, though it does flag up a number of actions

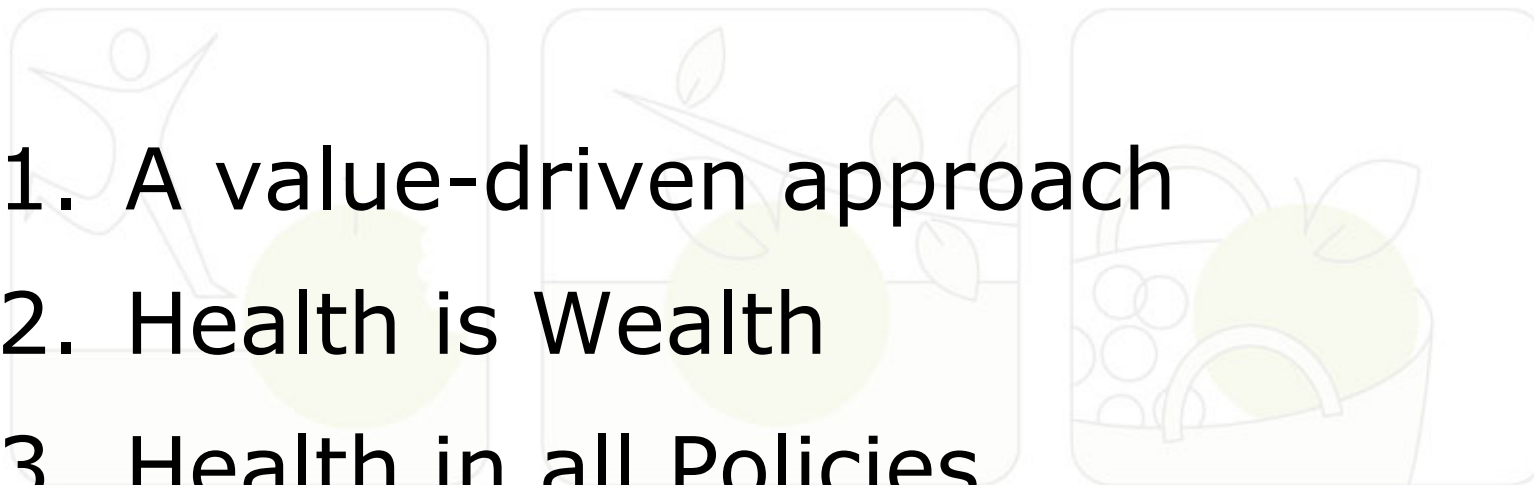


2. Results of Consultations

- **Health in All Policies** approach
 - Focus on **health promotion**
 - Bridge **health inequities**
 - Tackle **global health** issues
 - Address **ageing, technology, cross-border** issues
 - Develop **comparable data**
 - **EU, MS and stakeholders** should work together: strategy's success linked to ownership at regional and national level
- Supported by
Members of
HPF
- 

3. Principles of the Strategy

1. A value-driven approach
2. Health is Wealth
3. Health in all Policies
4. Global Health





Principle 1: A Strategy based on shared values

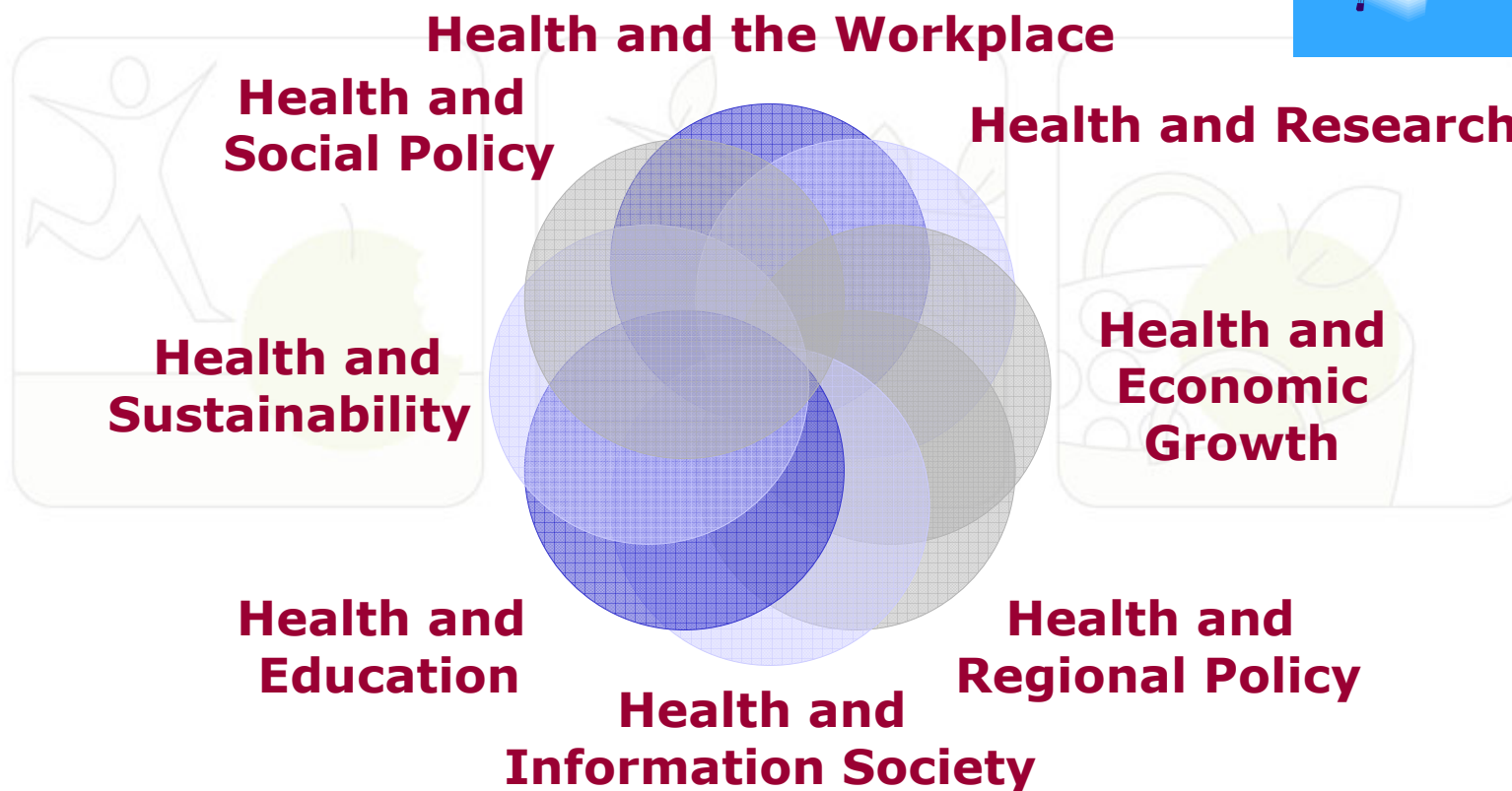
- **Shared Values** – a new Statement building on Council Conclusions on values for health systems
- **Citizens Empowerment** – health literacy
- **Reducing Inequities** – a new Communication
- **Comparable data** – developing ECHI list



Principle 2: “Health is the Greatest Wealth”

- An **investment**, not just a cost
- Increasing **HLY** – more people active, less pressure on health systems
- Recognising **economic value** of the health sector
- Action - new programme of analytic studies

Principle 3: Health in all Policies



Principle 4. Strengthening the EU's voice in Global Health



- EU Health policy to be **consistent** with external approach
- Work with **international organisations**
- Support health **agreements** like FCTC and IHR in 3rd countries
- Share **values and experience**

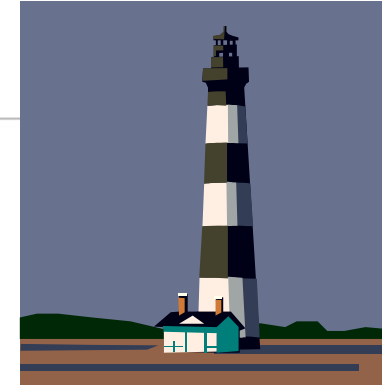
4. Objectives of the Strategy

1. Fostering Good Health in an Ageing Europe
2. Protecting Citizens from Health Threats
3. Supporting Dynamic Health Systems and New Technologies



Objective 1: Fostering Good Health in an Ageing Europe

- By 2050 there will be **70%** more people aged 65+ in the EU
- Need to promote health at **all ages**
 - childhood, adulthood, old age
- New action on **diseases, health determinants**, etc



Objective 2: Protecting Citizens from Health Threats

- Preparedness and response to threats e.g. **pandemics**, bioterrorism
- Review of the **ECDC**
- Emerging threats: **Climate Change**
- Patient Safety – estimated **10%** of patients suffer an adverse incident



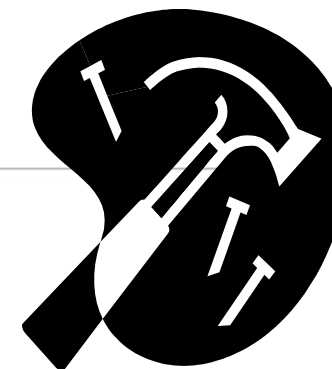
Objective 3: Supporting Dynamic Health Systems and New Technologies

- Health systems **under pressure** (mobility of patients and professionals, ageing, etc)
- New technologies can **revolutionise** healthcare **but** must be handled **carefully**
- **E-health** can support information, safety, quality and access
- **Actions:** New EU Framework for Health Services; Support for managing innovation



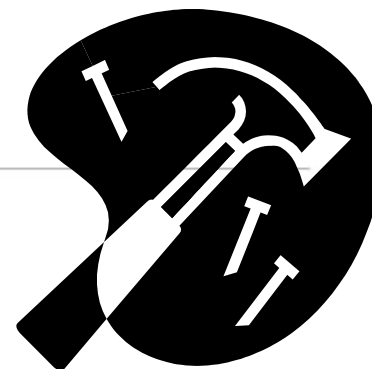
5. Implementation: mechanism

- Strategy to be implemented by all players in partnership: Commission, MS, stakeholders
- Commission to put forward new structured co-operation mechanism
- Co-operation mechanism to provide framework to:
 - identify priorities and define indicators
 - exchange good practice
 - develop guidelines /recommendations
 - measure progress



5. Implementation: financing

- No additional financial instrument – implementation through
 - Health Programme
 - FP7
 - Regional Policy instruments
 - and other existing instruments (to 2013)
- No additional burden to MS – new structure to streamline existing structures



6. Next steps

- Council Conclusions under Portuguese Presidency on 6 December
- Discussion on implementation with Member States in 2008, under Slovenian Presidency
- Setting up of new mechanism in 2008/2009, possibly incorporating some existing committees
- Detailed objectives and indicators are agreed upon within the new mechanism

7. The Health Strategy – Involvement of Stakeholders

- We are looking at efficient ways to bring NGOs on board in this mechanism
- Your ideas and contributions on how to do this are very welcome!



Thank you!

