

MEETING OF THE EPAAC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Athens, 26 September 2012, 9.00 – 11.00

Summary Report

The meeting was led by the EPAAC Coordinator, Sandra Radoš Krnel, with Professor Moreno of the University of Valencia leading the brainstorming session on increasing synergy between Work Packages.

The EPAAC coordinator gave a brief update of the technical status of the Joint Action (JA). The first Interim Technical and Financial Report to the EAHC was prepared and sent to the EAHC by the required deadline and was accepted. The second financial instalment was received by the coordinator and distributed among all of the associated partners. The second internal 6 month financial report is being prepared, with 6 partners still not having responded. A third amendment to the grant agreement will be prepared and proposals are being gathered from partners. The second amendment is in the process of being checked by the financial unit at the EAHC, the coordinator will be informed once it has been formally accepted. Due to the forthcoming EPAAC book, the technical annex of the grant agreement must be amended; in terms of the budget, the only costs for the JA are existing staff and printing costs, as the preparation of the book will be financed by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies.

The EPAAC book to be published in November 2013 was also discussed. Individual concerns regarding scheduling and content will be discussed one on one with WP Leaders and Professor Moreno. It was concluded that collaboration with Member States would be highlighted in every chapter; a potential proposal for a chapter focusing on patient involvement is possible, but pending the receipt of a proposal from the involved stakeholder groups. The members of the EPAAC Steering Committee should also be individually listed at an appropriate point in the publication for their input into the Joint Action. WP Leaders suggested that they would appreciate a template upon which they can base their chapters. It was stressed that European added value should be highlighted and that the book should make clear that EPAAC is one action, consisting of different objectives and sub-actions. The vital role of Member States in the EPAAC Joint Action was made clear, as the very nature of the initiative (Joint Action) implies that EPAAC is a joint action of all involved Member States.

By 15 November 2012, the skeleton of the book should be clear, as WP Leaders are expected to provide the Editorial Team (Professor Moreno, Josep Figueras, Tit Albreht and Sandra Radoš Krnel) with a rough outline by this date. The table of contents should be known at this stage, as well as provisional topics, titles and authors.

WP Leaders also discussed individual chapters of the First Interim Evaluation Report, which was presented at the Steering Committee the previous day. Some comments on WP 1 were that some partners complained about too many administrative requests and lack of experience of the Project Management Team. The Project Management Team is now fully experienced with half of the JA underway. The Project Management Team will also compile a list of all administrative duties of

the WP Leaders and partners until the end of the JA - this will help partners to plan the resources needed for fulfilling these requests.

WP 5 reported on the delay in the prevention toolkit deliverable, which was delayed due to debates on how to define the toolkits. The toolkits will be composed of tools that partners have previously used within their own organisations. Agreements have been made and it is expected that the toolkit will be downloadable through the ECL and EPAAC websites.

WP 8 is satisfied with their evaluation, explaining that their delay in deliverables was due to the time required to analyse the gathered questionnaires. They have a clear schedule for the future and good cooperation within the Work Package.

WP 6 and 9 outlined some of the activities taking place in the past reporting period. WP 2 reported that the scientific community is difficult to engage via social media and urged WP Leaders to share all content on the platforms they are active on. A Facebook campaign, to be launched in autumn/winter, is set to increase awareness of EPAAC and the European Code Against Cancer in the general public.

The brainstorming session on increasing synergy between Work Packages exposed the following:

- Potential links between WP 2 and 5 (Dissemination & Promotion/Prevention)
- Potential links between WP 8 and 9 (Research and Information & Data, already cooperated in past initiatives)
- Potential links between WP 5 and 6 (Promotion/Prevention & Screening, regarding updates of the European Code Against Cancer)
- Potential links between WP 6 and 9 (Screening & Information & Data, data on cancer trends to help evaluate screening)
- Potential links between WP 7 and 9 (Healthcare & Information & Data, collaboration on rare and pediatric cancers)
- WP 10 could further prioritise communication with all other WPs, as it influences them all. Recommendations from the Working Group on National Cancer Plans should be made clear to the WPs.

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held in Malta in May 2013.

Note:

Due to logistical issues, the Athens Editorial Board meeting was cancelled and will be held in Brussels in early 2013 alongside the EPAAC Book Editorial Meeting.