



WORKING GROUP ON NATIONAL CANCER PLANS MEETING,

Dublin, 2 March 2011, 9.00 – 12.00

Summary Report

Tit Albreht, Leader of Work Package 10, began by giving a brief overview of the situation regarding the National Cancer Plan questionnaires. 19 questionnaires have been submitted to date and 5 were to be received shortly.

There was a presentation outlining the structure of the National Cancer Plans questionnaires, after which delegates had the opportunity to address unclear points.

The following issues were raised:

- it was stated by some participants that there are many activities taking place at the same time (within a national strategy for cancer), therefore which should be listed? An overview and summary is requested, with links to the websites of the actions referred to.
- in response to some comments that the questionnaire was too broad, it was explained that it is not possible to have a questionnaire including enough details for all Member States, therefore a compromise had to be reached in crafting a questionnaire broad enough for the specificities of all Member States.
- There were comments that some sections of the questionnaire were repetitive, this will be resolved by editing the questionnaire. It was also stressed that there are a large range of cancer control indicators and that it would be helpful if a list of indicators for National Cancer Plan effectiveness was developed. The use of other measures as indicators might also be beneficial. A list of guidelines is available from international organisations.
- It was also mentioned that a glossary of key terms would be helpful in order to achieve consistency with the definitions of terminology used.
- It was suggested that as many Work Packages will be designing questionnaires, it may be useful to develop a template or strategy for questionnaires within EPAAC.

Within the next two weeks, questions will be answered and clarifications sent to the Member States that require help. Within this time it is anticipated that all National Cancer Plans will have been sent to the WP 10 leaders.

All Member States are encouraged to send their National Cancer Plans and any additional documentation which may be of use to the WP 10 team, even if this documentation is not in English. Any executive summaries in English are kindly requested.

Next steps

By the beginning of May, the process of initial analysis will be completed and a report presented at the Open Forum in Madrid. By Summer 2011, the process of the cross-sectional survey will have begun. The next steps for action are an exploration of available and efficient indicators, potential guidelines for the developments of National Cancer Plans, completion of the initial analysis and the presentation of the initial analysis at the Open Forum in Madrid.

The next meeting of the Working Group on National Cancer Plans will be in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 29-30 September 2011.