

Newsletter n.3- January 2004

# European Region News

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## General Meeting of the European Region of WCPT

The European Region of WCPT would like to remind you that the next General Meeting of the European Region, will be held on 13-15 May 2004 in Limassol, Cyprus, with the following timetable:

- **13 May 2004: 2pm-6pm**
- **14 May 2004: 9am-6pm**
- **15 May 2004: 9am-1pm**

The General Meeting will take place in Amathus Beach Hotel. For more information about the Hotel please consult: <http://www.amathushotel.com> Please note that the Member Organisations will be provided with a broader selection of hotels meeting all budgets.

## Elections to be held at the General Meeting of the European Region of WCPT

The following positions are eligible for election:

- **First Vice Chairman of Executive Committee**
- **Second Vice Chairman of Executive Committee**

The First and Second Vice Chairman shall serve as members of the executive committee for a four-year term of office.

According to the Articles 5.2 and 5.3 of the Charter of the European Region of WCPT, Member Organisations are asked to send nominations to the General Secretary by the 9 February 2004 (3 months before the election take place).

All nominations must be endorsed in writing and signed by the Chairman/President of their member organisation and the candidate must be a member of their own organisation. Candidates are invited to send their Curriculum Vitae and a statement of intent with their nomination that will be sent to all member organisations prior to the General Meeting, with a list of nominations.

Please note that any other Motions, as well as Nominations of First and Second Vice Chairman must be received by the General Secretary by **9 February 2004**.

The Executive Committee would like to advise you to book the flights to Limassol as soon as possible as there are other international events occurring at the same time. Both registration forms for the participants and accompanying persons will soon be sent to all Member Organisations.

**The Executive Committee of the European Region of WCPT wishes all its Members an Excellent Year 2004 with Health and many Physiotherapy projects!**



### **Romanian National Physiotherapy Congress**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Romanian National Physiotherapy Congress, dedicated to the theme "The effectiveness of physiotherapy practice" was organized by the Romanian Federation for Physical Therapy (FRAK) on 20-23 November 2003. The Executive Committee of the European Region of WCPT was invited to hold the Executive Committee Meeting in Bucharest in order to participate in the Congress as well.

The operational objective of the Congress was to set-up and finalise an assessment tool for every physiotherapy specialisation to be proposed for official adoption at the national level. The main purpose was to raise the profile and promote the physiotherapy profession in Romania. Physiotherapists from all over the country, competent authorities and national mass media attended the presentation of the Chairman of the European Region of WCPT, in which was outlined the importance of "One Profession, One Education".

The Chairman of the European Region of WCPT had a meeting with the national authorities and a press conference in order to explain relevant themes as the role of physiotherapy, professional recognition of the profession within EU and migration. The participation of the European Region of WCPT in the Romanian National Physiotherapy Congress called the attention of the national competent authorities and mass media for vital issues on the process of recognition and regulation of the physiotherapy profession.

After the Congress FRAK has started a dialogue and negotiation process with the Romanian Parliament towards the adoption of a Law regarding the establishment of a Romanian Physiotherapy Order.

### **Announcement of Bids for Hosting General Meeting of the European Region of WCPT 2006** **Deadline: 1 April 2003**

The Executive Committee of the European Region of WCPT invites Member Organisations to the European Region to consider making a bid to host the next General Meeting of the European Region in 2006. This meeting is held every two years and takes place in May/June, and is of two days' duration commencing on Thursday at midday and concluding on Saturday at midday.

The Executive Committee will be responsible for preparing the business of the General Meeting, and the hosting Member Organisation will be responsible for selecting an appropriate venue and a choice of accommodation, and arranging a supporting social programme.

It is recommended that the application be made in the form of a brochure that gives an outline of proposals for hosting and includes information about the following:

- Reasons for wishing to host the General meeting
- Venue of the General Meeting and description of facilities
- Additional Meeting facilities before and during the General Meeting
- Alternate hotels for accommodation within the location and costs
- Draft social programme
- Administrative support from Member Organisations

The Executive Committee will make a final decision at the next meeting to be held in May 2004. Please send your applications to the General Secretary to arrive before **1 April 2004**.



### **World Health Day 2004 dedicated to Road Safety**

In response to a growing concern about road traffic injuries, the WHO devoted a World Health Day specifically to Road Safety, to be celebrated on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2004. Each year road traffic injuries takes the lives of 1.2 million men, women and children around the world, and seriously injure million more.

Yet road traffic injuries can be prevented. Addressing issues such as speeding and driving under the influence of alcohol: promoting the use of helmets, seat belts and other restraints, ensuring that people walking and cycling are more easily visible; improving the design of roads and vehicles; enforcing road safety regulations; and improving emergency response services has demonstrated that the needless deaths and disabilities caused by road traffic collisions can be prevented.

Road Safety is a result of deliberate efforts on the part of many sectors of society - government and non-government alike – once these sectors have acknowledged it to be an important and valuable public good, and have developed policies and programmes to support and maintained it.

On 7<sup>th</sup> of April around the globe, hundreds of organisations will host events to help raise awareness about road traffic injuries, their grave consequences, and enormous costs to society. They will also contribute to spreading the word that such injuries can be prevented. For more information please consult <http://www.who.int/world-health-day/2004/en/>

### **EU Health Policy Forum**

At the European Union Health Policy Forum, hold on 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2003, it was adopted a recommendation on “Mobility of Health Professionals”. The EU Working Group of the European Region of WVPT has participated in the drafting of this recommendation, which was coordinated by the Standing Committee of the European Doctors (CPME). The aim of the document was to focus on how the professions are organised to meet the challenges of mobility, and on possible ways to optimise the mobility of health professionals in order to better respond to the needs of patients. This recommendation will soon be available at the European Region website.

### **Patient Mobility– Recommendations**

The high level reflection process hold a concluding meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2003 where the final document, which provides 19 recommendations on patient mobility, was adopted by the Council and representatives of the Member States. The document entitled “High Level Process of reflection on patient mobility and health care developments in the EU” can be consulted at <http://www.euractiv.com/ndbtext/health&food/patientmobility.pdf>

### **Call of Papers for 23 January 2004 European Congress on “Physiotherapy Education in the new Europe – Linking Education, Profession and Employment”**

The deadline for reception of abstracts for the European Congress on Physiotherapy Education is **23 January 2004**. The Congress will take place in Estoril, Portugal on 4-5 November For further details and to obtain the abstract form, please consult <http://www.apfisio.pt/ecpe>.



**European Year of Education  
Through Sport 2004**

The European Union has proclaimed the “European Year of Education through Sport” for 2004. With this pioneering pan-European project, the European Union aims at attract even more citizens to sports than is already the case: every third EU citizen actively participates in some type of sports on a regular basis and the number of associations in Europe also continues to increase. “The influence of sports on Community life extends far beyond sporting activities and exerts just as much of an influence on our interpersonal relationships as it does on the worlds of education, work, and leisure and, in addition, it is an important factor in the promotion of health” explains Viviane Reding, EU Commissioner for Education and Culture.

The aim of the campaign work, under the slogan “Move your body. Stretch your mind!” is to increase awareness among citizens for this multifaceted topic and to provide information about the various promotional possibilities. Support for educational and sports facilities is in the focus of the promotional programme of the European Year of Education through Sport. Sport and its associated values such as tolerance, team spirit, fair play, or strength of character are to be ascribed a more important educational role with the help of this initiative. The goal of the project is to create a new partnership between the world of education and the world of sports. For more information please consult [http://europa.eu.int/comm/sport/gen\\_info/whatsnew\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/sport/gen_info/whatsnew_en.html)

**Irish priorities for Health**

“Europeans – Working Together” is the theme of the Irish Presidency that will see the historic enlargement of the European Union to include ten new Member States on 1 May 2004.

In terms of health, the Irish Presidency intends to focus on improved public health protection and added value at European level. It will aim to secure adoption of key health measures while ensuring that health considerations are fully reflected in measures covering other areas of EU activity.

Key health-related initiatives and proposals to be advanced will include those in the areas of pharmaceuticals, traditional medicines, food safety and medical devices. The Irish Presidency will also coincide with the introduction of a European Health Insurance Card and will facilitate the establishment of a European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Cardiovascular health will be particularly highlighted in the Council and at a specific conference in Ireland, while conferences will also be held on e-health and tobacco control. The Irish Presidency will also develop the work of the High Level Process of Reflection on Patient Mobility and contribute to the Environment and Health Action Plan. At an international level, the Presidency will be fully engaged with the review of World Health Organisation International Health Regulations.

For further information please consult Priorities for Ireland’s Presidency of the European Union, January - June 2004, on the following website <http://eu2004.ie>

<p><b>119 Boulevard Louis Schmidt, B 1040 Brussels</b> <b>Tel: +32 2 7438232 Fax: +32 2 736 8251</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:euro.physio@wanadoo.be">euro.physio@wanadoo.be</a> Web-site: <a href="http://www.physio-europe.org">www.physio-europe.org</a></b></p>
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