



MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE



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I.NEWS FROM MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE

"No Social Inclusion without Mental Health", MHE event at the European parliament

Mental Health Europe (MHE) together with John Bowis, Member of the European Parliament (MEP), hosted a special event dedicated to the exploration of issues around mental health and mental well-being in the European Union on 13 September 2006 at the European Parliament in Brussels. The event with the title "*No Social Inclusion without Mental Health*" was attended by MEPs, Council Health Attachés as well as representatives from the European Commission cabinets of Commissioner M. Wallström (Institutional Relations and Communication Strategy) and Commissioner V. Spidla (Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities).

The event was chaired by John Bowis (Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats – and European Democrats, United Kingdom). Bowis is the author of a report based on the European Commission Green Paper on Mental Health, which was unanimously adopted on 13 July 2006 by the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.

In his opening speech, Bowis underlined that the Green Paper on Mental Health should be warmly welcomed and endorsed since it represents the very first attempt, at the European level, to tackle the burden of mental illness and give mental health a high priority on the European political agenda. However, there is also still a long way to go. Difficult decisions will have to be made and audacious actions will have to be undertaken if we want to divert more political attention and financial resources to mental health.

Malgorzata Kmita, President of MHE, presented the keynote speech of the evening. She highlighted that mental health problems can affect all of us at different stages in life, but that it appears to be the case that those people experiencing the most stressful social and economic environments are most adversely affected and most susceptible to mental ill-health and mental dis-ease. The situation is exacerbated by the popular misconception that mental illness is a sign of personal weakness or even a moral failure.

Malgorzata Kmita concluded by stating her belief mental health is not just about an absence of mental illness, but that it is about the presence of mental health and well being at both the personal and social levels, based on solid foundations which include prevention, promotion and appropriate intervention strategies at all levels of society including schools, the family, employment, communities, churches and temples, health and socio-economic settings.

Both speeches were followed by lively discussions and question-times.

A complete report on the event will be available soon on the MHE website.

For more information: MHE Secretariat, Tel +32 2 280 04 68, E-mail info@mhe-sme.org

REMINDER - Proposal for the setting up of a MHE Committee on Ethnic Minority Groups and Mental Health

During their meeting in July, members of the MHE Executive Committee agreed to explore possibilities for setting up a MHE Committee to work specifically on "*Ethnic Minority Groups and Mental Health*".

The objective of this committee would be to look at the mental health needs of ethnic minority groups in Europe. One of the outcomes could be the submission of a project proposal prepared by the Committee to the European Commission.

In a first phase, this Committee would mainly work by e-mail. Members could meet once a year during MHE General Assembly or conference.

MHE is looking for key persons/specialists in this field that would be interested in setting up such a body.

If you think you can help, please contact the MHE Secretariat: Tel +32 2 280 04 68, E-mail info@mhe-sme.org

Minutes from the MHE Seminar

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to inform you that the minutes of the MHE Seminar "*The EC Green Paper on Mental Health: Time for Action!*", which took place in Brussels on 12 May, are now available on the MHE website. The French version will be posted soon.

To directly access the minutes:

http://www.mhe-sme.org/en/publications/Minutes_MHE%20Seminar%2012.05.06.pdf

MHE Project in the Cypriot Press

The transnational exchange project "*Good Practices for Combating Social Exclusion of People with Mental Health Problems*", led by MHE in the frame of the EU Community Action Programme to Combat Social Exclusion, has made the headlines. Thanks to the efforts of the project partner Elise Torossian from the Advocacy Group for the Mentally Ill (Cyprus) articles about the project have been published in three different Cypriot newspapers with the title: "*People with mental health problems find themselves before closed doors. Prejudices continue to keep them marginalised*".

The articles focused on the outcomes of the analyses of the situation of social exclusion of people with mental health problems, which have been carried out by the project partners earlier this year, highlighting the fact that social exclusion of people with mental health problems represents a major problem in all the ten partner countries involved in the present project. In all countries, there are some few isolated good practices that can be found, no matter whether in the "old" or "new" EU Member States. However, in all the countries there is also an ongoing, urgent need for concerted efforts and actions to promote the social inclusion of people with mental health problems, i.e. to create a society in which all the people enjoy a high level of mental health, live as full citizens and have access to appropriate services and support when needed.

For more information: contact person, Sogol Noorani, Project Coordinator, Tel +32 2 280 04 68, e-mail sogol.noorani@mhe-sme.org

European Commission conference on the European Social Fund and Disability

On 21 September, the European Commission organised a conference in Brussels (Belgium), on the European Social Fund (ESF) and Disability.

The ESF was established in 1957, and it is the main financial instrument of the EU to promote employability and investment in human capital. The ESF plays a major role in helping people improve their situation in the labour market by promoting access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, giving particular emphasis to people at risk of social exclusion. In this context special attention has been given to actions addressed to people with disabilities which support their entry into and sustain their participation in the labour market.

The conference aimed at informing participants of the possibilities offered by the Structural Funds, particularly the ESF, for the next programming period 2007-2013 to support employment, training and equal opportunities for disabled people as well as the development of an accessible environment. The conference highlighted and disseminated examples of good practices in disability-related actions and helped to develop the mainstream approach to disability in future ESF programmes.

The conference gathered participants from a wide range of sectors: disability organisations' representatives, public authorities, members of the European Social Fund Committees, government representatives, academic researchers and disability social services providers.

They were all informed about the importance of securing accessibility and non-discrimination in the preparation, implementation and monitoring process throughout the Structural Funds, in particular the European Social Fund.

The major outcome of the conference was a contribution to the design of a toolkit to evaluate the accessibility of ESF projects for people with disabilities which will be developed under the 2nd EU Disability Action Plan (*Communication from the European Commission on the situation of disabled people in the enlarged Europe: The European Action Plan 2006-2007 - COM/2005/604 of 28.11.2005*).

The toolkit will contain guidance to support Member States and project promoters in preparing and implementing their programmes and projects. It will provide information on good practices from existing ESF programmes and projects.

Elisabeth Muschik, MHE board member, represented MHE at this conference.

For more information: the European Commission's website, http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf2000/index_en.html

Source: European Commission's note on the conference

MHE representation at various meetings

On 12 September Mari Fresu, Project Coordinator, gave a presentation on "*Mental Health: EU Policies and Practice*" at the South Norway EU Office (Brussels) for a group of people working in the field of mental health at regional level in Norway.

On 13 September, Malgorzata Kmita, President, and Mary Van Dievel, Director, gave an interview to a Polish journalist. The interview was about the handling of mental health issues at the European level and the work carried out by MHE. The interview was filmed and broadcasted in Poland.

On the same day, Malgorzata Kmita, Claude Deutsch, Board member, Elisabeth Muschik, Board Member, Nace Kovac, Board Member, and the MHE staff took part in a meeting organised by MHE at the European Parliament, on the topic "*No social Inclusion without Mental Health*". The event was chaired by John Bowis, Member of the European Parliament. (see p.2)

On 18 September, Sogol Noorani, Project Coordinator, Mari Fresu and Fanny Muller, information Officer, attended a web management training performed by Benjamin Toussaint, from Hypernovae.

On 21 September, Elisabeth Muschik represented MHE at the European Commission's Conference on the European Social Fund and Disability, organised in Brussels (Belgium). (see p. 3)

On 22-23 September, Mary Van Dievel attended the final partners and Consortium meeting for the EMIP project (Implementation of Mental Health Promotion and Prevention Policies and Strategies in EU Member States) in Tallinn (Estonia).

On 27 September Mary Van Dievel attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the Julie Renson Foundation in Antwerp (Belgium). Theme of the meeting was dementia and Alzheimer disease.

On 28 September, Mary Van Dievel participated in the Social Platform's preparation meeting for the study visit in Slovenia.

On 29 September, Sogol Noorani participated in the preparation meeting of the next Social Inclusion Roundtable that will take place in Tampere (Finland).

What have you done for World Mental Health Day? Send us your contributions!

II. NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

New Executive Director for the Finnish Association for Mental Health

Executive Director Pirkko Lahti has retired on 31 August 2006, after having served 25 years as the leader of the Finnish Association for Mental Health. During these years she became a widely appreciated expert on mental health issues – not only by professionals but also by the "grass root" level, the ordinary people in Finland, and the international level too. She now continues to speak about promoting and supporting mental health in different occasions, but not officially anymore.

The executive group of the Finnish Association for Mental Health organised an exciting half-a-day event on 31 August, after which the official farewell party took place outdoors, in the beautiful park area around the association's new Koivula Centre (supported housing for youth with severe mental health problems), in Helsinki.

The party gathered hundreds of colleagues and friends to celebrate Pirkko, among them the President of Finland, Ms Tarja Halonen.

The Finnish Association for Mental Health's new Executive Director, Ms Marita Ruohonen, has started her work on 1 September.

Her contact details are as following:

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Executive Director

Finnish Association for Mental Health

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FIN-00240 Helsinki

Tel +358 9 6155 1700 Fax +358 9 6155 1770

E-mail marita.ruohonen@mielenterveysseura.fi

www.mielenterveysseura.fi

Thanks to Mirja Sevón, from the Finnish Association for Mental Health, for this contribution.

Social chamber of Slovenia has a new president

We are pleased to inform you that Nace Kovač, member of the MHE board and Secretary of MHE, has been elected President of the Social Chamber of Slovenia, a central association of experts in the field of social welfare.

Since 1993, Nace Kovač is successfully leading the Slovenian Association for Mental Health, as Executive Director. His work and efforts towards the improvement of care and services for people with mental health problems are widely recognised in Slovenia.

For more information: the Slovenian Association for Mental Health's website, www.sent-si.org/

Thanks to Barbara Purkart, from the Slovenian Association for Mental Health, for this contribution.

New E-mail addresses for Advocacy France

Please take note of the organisation's new E-mail addresses:

- Advocacy France: advocacy.france@erenis.fr;
- Advocacy Paris: advocacy.paris@erenis.fr;

Your activities and initiatives are important! They may also inspire others!

III. NEWS FROM OTHER EUROPEAN NGOS

European Disability Forum

Final Conference of EDF EU funded project "Mainstreaming of Disability in Regional and Local Policies" – Brussels, 6-7 November 2006

The European Disability Forum (EDF) together with its partners (HSO Sweden, VGPN Netherlands and CEMR – Council of European Municipalities and Regions) has led in 2005 and 2006 a European Commission funded project in 8 countries. The main objective has been to increase the integration of the interests of people with disabilities in policy making at regional and local level. This mainstreaming had to happen on the basis of a human rights based approach to disability.

To finalise the project, EDF will hold a European Conference on "*Mainstreaming of Disability in Regional and Local Policies*" on 6-7 November in Brussels. This conference will be hosted by the Committee of Regions and will gather 125 participants from 25 EU Member States, representatives from both organisations of people with disabilities and from regional or local public authorities.

The objective of the conference is twofold. On the one hand it will enable EDF to present the concrete results of the project in 8 countries (Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Latvia, Slovakia and Slovenia) to a large audience made of representatives of Organisations of People with Disabilities (OPwD) and of local public authorities.

On the other hand the conference represents a starting point to stress out to local authorities and local OPwDs the importance of using the concept of mainstreaming in their daily work at local and regional level. It will be a good opportunity for local actors and European institutions to discuss the development and tools needed to develop the mainstreaming of disability in regional and local policies.

For more information: contact persons, Aurelie Baranger, E-mail aurelie.baranger@edf-feqh.org, and Pierre Baussant, E-mail Pierre.baussant@edf-feqh.org, or see the EDF website, <http://www.edf-feqh.org>

Source: EDF Weekly Mailing

Mental Disability Advocacy Center

Recent leadership change at the Mental Disability Advocacy Center

Since 1 September, Oliver Lewis assumes the role of Executive Director of the Mental Disability Advocacy Center (MDAC). He succeeds Diana Samarasan, who is returning to the United States for family reasons. After an open search process, the Board appointed Oliver, previously the Legal Director of MDAC, to take her place. Barbora Bukovská, a prominent Czech human rights attorney, has been appointed as the new legal director.

For more information: MDAC website, <http://www.mdac.info/>

Thanks to Dr. Jan Pfeiffer, from MDAC, for this contribution.

IV. EUROPEAN UNION

PROGRESS: a final decision on the content to be reached this autumn

PROGRESS stated overall objective is to reinforce the initiative role of the Community in proposing EU strategies; implementing and following-up the EU legislation's application in a coherent way through Europe; promoting the cooperation and coordination mechanisms between Member States and cooperating with organizations that represent civil society.

PROGRESS will support the implementation of the EU's Social Policy Agenda. The Social Policy Agenda is Europe's roadmap for social and employment policy until 2010 and is an important element of the EU's new Growth and jobs strategy.

PROGRESS will cover five main fields of activity: Employment, Social Protection and inclusion, Working Conditions, Anti-discrimination and Diversity, and Gender Equality.

The programme will be open to all NGOs working in the field, but in particular to EU level NGOs. Some networks would be eligible for core funding. It is important to note that the PROGRESS programme will provide support up to 80% as a general rule. There will be only one programme Committee for all sections of the Programme.

Financing of transnational exchange activities will be possible mainly under the employment and social inclusion fields. From 2007, this kind of activities should preferably be financed through the European Social Fund, which will have a transnational dimension in its new regulation.

Negotiations concerning the content of the programme are still continuing. The Council adopted a common position in July, it was then transmitted to the European Parliament in September.

The final text should be adopted in autumn 2006. Yet, the European Commission has already started to anticipate setting-up and preparing the implementation of PROGRESS, in parallel with the overall negotiations. The European Commission is very much aware of the need to ensure a smooth transition between existing Community programmes and forthcoming PROGRESS. In that context, it has already informed NGOs that it is looking at best ways to avoid any funding gap towards operating costs support for 2007.

For more information: the Europa portal, <http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/cha/c11332.htm>

Source: Inclusion Europe Newsletter

V. EUROPEAN COMMISSION

New health services law expected for end 2006

The European Commission is planning to table a new directive on opening up the health services market by the end of 2006.

Buoyed up by several decisions coming from the European Union's top court, particularly a recent one on patient mobility, the Commission has already set the process in motion.

Both the Health and the Internal Market Commissioners had announced in the European Parliament that they were going to come forward with a proposal.

The Brussels executive has been given a boost by the European Court of Justice, whose legal rulings tend towards further integration, using internal market arguments.

Any directive from the commission to open up the internal market in this area is likely to prompt strong reactions - particularly from some quarters of the European Parliament which recently only agreed a general services law after health had been removed from its scope.

That directive, dubbed the Bolkestein directive after its Dutch commissioner author, prompted massive debate both within and beyond Brussels, and was eventually agreed by Member States last month after being substantially watered down. At the time, several members of the European Parliament had argued that health and social services should not be governed by the principles of the internal market.

However, critics of the exemptions pointed out that the commission would be likely to come forward with a separate specific directive for each excluded area - which included health, social, security and transport services. Member States are also likely to watch any moves the commission makes very keenly.

Technically the EU only has a supporting role in the public health sphere and the current treaties are quite clear about the rights of member states in health issues - which are very linked to national sovereignty.

However, the Commission can get around the issue via internal market rules and has traditionally been strongly backed by the European Court of Justice.

For more information: the European Commission's website,

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/services/services-dir/index_en.htm

Source: EUobserver

National Parliaments will be directly informed by the European Commission about all policy initiatives

Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Institutional Relations and Communication informed this week in Helsinki the Chairpersons meeting of COSAC (EU Affairs Parliamentary Committees) about the Commission's decision to start the direct transmission of its documents to the national parliaments. The Commission thereby fulfilled its commitment announced on 10 May and subsequently endorsed by the June European Council.

The documents will be transmitted to the national parliaments by e-mail. A special internal procedure has been put in place for the handling of parliaments' opinions, under the authority of the Commission's Vice-President Margot Wallström, responsible for relations with the national parliaments. The procedure will guarantee that the voice of the national parliaments is heard and their contributions are taken into account in the ongoing process of assessing policy initiatives of the European Commission. This new procedure will complement the already extensive consultations the Commission undertakes. The procedure does not change the existing legislative procedures foreseen by the Treaties with regard to the European Parliament and the Council, which will be kept informed of our correspondence with national parliaments.

For more information: the European Commission's website,

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1172&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Source: Social Platform Weekly Mailing

DG Employment and Social Affairs

European Commission issued a training manual to combat discrimination

Under the framework of the European Community Action Programme to Combat Discrimination, the European Commission has developed a training manual to combat discrimination with the aim of providing information on European and national anti-discrimination, law and policy to non-governmental organisations in the 10 new UE member States.

This manual can be downloaded on the following link:

<http://www.humanconsultancy.com/Training%20manual%20participants.doc>

DG Health and Consumer Protection

New documents available on the EC Health and Consumer Protection website

The European Commission has published the responses to the consultation on the Green Paper on mental health on the Commission's public health website. The contributions received can be now consulted under the link:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_determinants/life_style/mental/green_paper/consultation_en.htm.

The following outcomes of the consultative meetings are included as well:

- a report by the consultative platform established for the consultation;
- the meetings' reports;
- a summary report about the meetings.

Also published are the results of the open consultation, including a Resolution by the European Parliament of 6 September, an Opinion report by the European Economic Social Committee, positions from several Member States, as a part of a total of around 250 reactions.

In autumn 2006, the Commission services plan to present its responses analysis, which will be the basis for any further decisions. The Commission intends to prepare a strategy document on mental health for adoption in spring 2007.

VI. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Parliament endorsed a strategy to fight mental health problems in Europe

On 6 September, the Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) endorsed a strategy to fight mental health problems in Europe.

Parliament strongly backed a report by British Conservative MEP John Bowis calling for EU-wide legislation on mental health that would "*defend the civil and fundamental rights*" of sufferers and would be drawn up in partnership with them, their families, carers and NGO's. The report also backs measures to, if possible, take people out of mental institutions.

MEPs voted to widen the original definition of "*key target groups*" in the European Commission's Green Paper on mental health to include those with severe mental illness, long term and terminal illness, the disabled, prisoners, ethnic groups, migrants, the unemployed and those with job insecurity. The original mentioned only children, employees, older people and the disadvantaged. A gender element was also included as mental health issues can affect men and woman differently. The importance of this issue reflects the fact that 18.4 million people in the EU suffer serious depression each year with 58,000 people committing suicide.

For more information: the European Parliament website,

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/008-10460-247-09-36-901-20060907STO10459-2006-04-09-2006/default_en.htm

Source: EDF Weekly Mailing

Pilot programme of traineeships for people with a disability

The European Parliament is offering paid traineeships to people with a disability, as a positive action measure aimed at facilitating the integration of disabled people in the workplace.

These traineeships are open both to graduates of universities or equivalent institutions and to people whose qualifications are below university level.

The main purpose of this programme is to offer a number of people with disabilities a meaningful and valuable work experience, and an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the activities of the European Parliament.

Paid traineeships are awarded for a period of five months.

For more information: the European Parliament website,

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/parliament/public/staticDisplay.do?id=147&pageRank=4&language=EN>

OneSeat.eu campaign gathered one million signatures

On 18 September the OneSeat.eu campaign reached its goal of one million signatures. OneSeat.eu is the first initiative ever to reach support by one million signatures. The petition

was handed to the Commission on 21 September by a group of Parliamentarians, led by Cecilia Malmström, Member of the European Parliament.

The OneSeat.eu campaign was launched in May 2006 and aims at ending the EU Parliament monthly plenary sessions in Strasbourg and relocating it full-time to Brussels. According to the petitioners, the dispersion of Parliament's activities between three working places - Brussels for the daily Parliamentary work, Luxembourg for administration and Strasbourg for the plenary sessions - *"has a negative impact on time and cost-effectiveness and the overall image of the European Union"*.

The decision to hold most of the Parliament's sessions in Strasbourg was laid down in a 1992 summit agreement, which was confirmed by the 1997 Amsterdam Treaty. Any decision to change it would require an amendment to the EU Treaties, a process which requires unanimity between all EU member states.

According to article 47 of the draft Constitutional Treaty the Commission has to take up an issue which is petitioned for by one million citizens of the Union.

However, it is highly unlikely that the petition will go beyond the Brussels sphere for now, France having already signaled that it would not accept any change to the existing arrangements which are inherited from the post-war Franco-German reconciliation.

In an interview with EurActiv, French EU Ambassador Pierre Sellal explained France's view in the heated debate over Strasbourg remaining as one of the Parliament's two seats. He argued, as a home to both the European Parliament and the assembly of the Council of Europe, that *"Strasbourg has become the parliamentary capital of Europe. It is in Strasbourg that the Parliament gets a maximum of visibility, which lets it draw on the legitimacy it gets from being the only EU institution drawing on a direct popular backing, as opposed to other institutions that are perceived as distant and hard to identify."*

For more information: see the OneSeat.eu campaign's website, <http://www.oneseat.eu/>

Source: EurActiv

VII. COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Council of Europe disability action plan 2006-2015

The Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, has made a two-day visit to St. Petersburg, visiting establishments for people with disabilities and meeting non governmental organizations representatives as well as the Chairman of the Permanent Commission on social rights at the St Petersburg Parliamentary Assembly.

His visit took place ahead of a major European conference on 21-22 September entitled *"Improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in Europe: participation for all, innovation, effectiveness"*, which marked the launch of the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan 2006-2015, which was adopted on 7 April 2006.

The action Plan seeks to translate the aims of the Council of Europe with regard to human rights, non-discrimination, equal opportunities, full citizenship and participation of people with disabilities into a European policy framework on disability for the next decade. It promotes the paradigm shift from a health-related to a social and human rights-based approach to disability: from the patient to the citizen.

The Plan is intended to serve as a roadmap for policy makers, enabling the design, adjustment and implementation of appropriate programmes and innovative strategies.

It promotes the essential concept that disabled people and their representatives need to be consulted as stakeholders in decision-making processes which affect their lives.

For more information: the Council of Europe's website,

http://www.coe.int/t/commissioner/Media/News_2006/060921StPetersbourg_en.asp

Source: Council of Europe Press Release

VIII. UNITED NATIONS

United Nations (UN) adopts Draft of Historic New Disability Rights Convention

Five years of intensive negotiations at UN level have been necessary for the adoption of the international text, the first human rights text adopted in the past 16 years.

The new Convention is based on existing human rights Treaties and their application to people with disabilities. Its aim is to guarantee an effective protection of disabled people and ensure that they can enjoy from the most basic human rights. The text prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in all areas of life and addresses access to the full range of human rights: civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including through positive actions.

The new Convention pays particular attention to the situation of women with disabilities, as well as to the rights of children through both specific provisions, and a mainstreaming approach. It also includes a strong Treaty monitoring body, and an optional protocol on individual (or group) complaints and state enquiries, which will be open for signature and ratification by States concurrently.

For the first time, the European Communities will be parties to a human rights Treaty, and therefore, will be scrutinised as the signatory States, as regards the implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities.

The Convention was presented to the entire General Assembly for ratification in September.

For more information: the convention new dedicated website,

<http://www.un.org/disabilities/convention/>

Source: EDF Press Release

IX. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Promoting access to healthcare services for persons with disabilities

80% of people with disabilities live in developing countries and most have no access to healthcare services. There is a need to accelerate the development and implementation of national action plans to promote appropriate integration of people with disabilities. The World Health organization (WHO) is in the process of developing a World Report on disability and rehabilitation, and additionally WHO is guiding and supporting countries to scale up public health programmes that promote rehabilitation and make assistive devices available to persons with disabilities.

For more information: contact person, Dr Catherine Le Galès-Camus, Tel +41.22.791.2999, E-mail legalescamusc@who.int, or visit WHO website,

http://www.who.int/nmh/donorinfo/vip_promoting_access_healthcare_rehabilitation_v2.pdf

Source: WHO e-Update

X. WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

2006 World Mental Health Day

Mental health organisations around the world are making plans to observe the 14th annual World Mental Health Day on October 10. The theme for this year's global mental health awareness campaign organised by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) addresses one of the world's most pressing public health problems – the high prevalence of suicide among people with a mental illness.

On October 10, various organisations will join mental health service, education and advocacy groups in over 100 countries to conduct public awareness, education and advocacy events that will bring these issues to the attention of the general public, primary healthcare professionals, public health officials, and policy makers. The campaign combines both education and advocacy strategies intended to improve public understanding and attitudes about people with mental illnesses and to encourage government officials to increase the effort necessary to direct more resources towards addressing the early recognition and treatment of mental health problems.

This year's campaign theme is "*Building Awareness - Reducing Risk: Mental Illness and Suicide*". It was selected to call attention to the fact that suicide is often a consequence of failing to recognise and treat serious mental illnesses, such as depression and schizophrenia. The World Health Organization estimates that, of the 1 million people who die from suicide each year, up to 90% have at least one, often undiagnosed and untreated, mental illness or abuse alcohol or other drugs. These facts should motivate governmental bodies and officials to pay greater attention to the negative social and economic consequences that result from

failure to implement progressive national policies and strategies to address then unmet needs of people with mental illnesses and at-risk for suicide.

For more information: send an e-mail to the WFMH, wfmhday@wfmh.com, or visit the WFMH website, www.wfmh.org

XI. WEBSITES/ONLINE INFORMATION

Employment Help for People with Mental Illness

The Employment Intervention Demonstration Program (EIDP) is a multisite research study of innovative programs that combine vocational rehabilitation with clinical services and supports. The study was designed to determine new ways of enhancing employment opportunities and quality of life for mental health consumers. Funded by the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the program includes eight demonstration sites as well as a Coordinating Center. The EIDP Coordinating Center, charged with overall program administration, data management, and data analyses, is located at the Center for Mental Health Services Research and Policy in the Department of Psychiatry, working in collaboration with the Human Services Research Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

For more information: the Center on mental Health services research and policy of the University of Illinois' (Chicago - USA) website, <http://www.psych.uic.edu/eidp/>

XII. PUBLICATIONS

Stories of Recovery - Working together towards experiential knowledge in mental health care

In this brochure, edited by Wilma Boevink (from the Trimbos-Institute and the European Network of (ex)Users and Survivors of Psychiatry), users in receipt of long-term psychiatric care describe how they have worked together towards recovery. Within a newly formed "Recovery Group", they set out to discover what the term "recovery" meant for them, and learned to see themselves in a new perspective. Their attention shifted away from illness, symptoms and being a patient, to recovery and the opportunities in their own lives, both within and outside the mental health care system. During this process they rediscovered their confidence in themselves.

However, this brochure is about more than the remarkable process of development which this group of individuals underwent. As members of the Recovery Group they also acquired experiential knowledge and developed ways of transferring that knowledge to others, both fellow users and mental health care professionals. The result was a recovery programme for people with psychological disabilities.

"Stories of Recovery" consists of two parts. The first part describes the experiences of the Recovery Group. The second part comprises a Guide explaining how to form a Recovery Group.

To order a copy (10 euros): Trimbos-institute, Mrs. W. Boevink, P.O. box 725, 3500 As Utrecht, The Netherlands - Fax +31 30 2971111

For more information: the Trimbos-institute's website, <http://www.trimbos.nl/default37.html>

Country reports included in the series "Rights of People with Intellectual Disabilities: Access to Education and Employment"

Twelve of the fourteen country reports included in this series of monitoring reports have already been released: Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and the United Kingdom. The reports on Slovakia and the Czech Republic are currently being compiled.

This series of monitoring reports is the most comprehensive research ever published in this field in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). It focuses on the situation of people with intellectual disabilities in these 12 European countries, and makes recommendations on how this vulnerable group can be more fully integrated into community life. The reports focus in particular on education and employment opportunities, including the extent to which mainstreaming in education and supported employment are developed in each country monitored.

Each report includes a number of concrete, detailed recommendations, aimed at improving the situation of people with intellectual disabilities. Each country report includes the complete report, both in English and the national language of the monitored country.

Summary reports (in English only) are also available. These include the main findings (executive summaries and recommendations) of all the published country reports.

To directly access the reports: see the EUMAP website, www.eumap.org/topics/inteldis/reports

Source: Open Society Institute

Participation and access for all to fundamental rights

The International Movement ATD Quart Monde published this document in March 2006. It concludes a programme of transnational exchange on including "*the poorest as necessary interlocutors in the fights against poverty and for the access of all to fundamental rights*". It was organised with various partners as part of the European Commission's Action Programme to fight against social exclusion 2002-2006.

This publication addresses the question of why democracy, human rights, economic knowledge and technological progress in Europe do not guarantee respect for fundamental rights to all who live within its boundaries.

In 2004-2005 ATD Fourth World provoked a European dialogue around this question of the participation of people living in situation of poverty and exclusion.

This publication draws together the lessons learnt from actions and exchanges that took place in previous years. It asserts why the participation of people in extreme poverty is necessary, what obstacles must be overcome, which conditions must be met, and also describes the effects of these exchanges.

This document is currently available in English and French.

To order a copy (7 euros): write an e-mail to region.europe@atd-quartmonde.org

To download a presentation of "*What we say must change our lives*" (in French and English): www.atd-quartmonde.org

Alcohol, Gender and Drinking Problems – Perspectives from Low and Middle Income Countries

The papers in this volume, published by the World Health organization (WHO), are based primarily on the research conducted in eight developing countries as part of a multinational research project on "*Gender, Alcohol and Culture: an International Study*" (GENACIS), funded by WHO, the European Union, U.S. National institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA), and individual countries. GENACIS is a major collaborative effort to highlight the relationship between gender and alcohol issues, seek greater understanding of male and female differences in patterns of drinking and alcohol problems, and assess the public health implications of drinking by men and women.

Each of the eight country-specific chapters in this volume consists of a review of alcohol and alcohol policy in the country and an analysis of social and health problems associated with drinking.

To order a copy: send an e-mail to bookorderd@who.int

For more information: WHO e-commerce site, www.who.int/bookorders

Prevention and Treatment of Suicidal Behaviour

In this book the leading figures from psychiatry, psychology, epidemiology, public health and social medicine bring together the research evidence concerning the key elements in suicide prevention and treatment of suicidal behaviour and translate it into implications for practical action. This includes social and public health policy as well as clinical practice. This book is an essential source for anyone concerned with the design and implementation of effective suicide prevention strategies, including clinicians working with individual patients, strategic policy makers, and researchers.

To order a copy: bookorders.uk@oup.com

For more information: the Oxford University Press' website, www.oup.com/uk/best.textbooks

XIII. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

11-13 October 2006**Fourth World Conference on the promotion of Mental Health and Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders, "Developing Resilience and Strength across the Life Span", Oslo (Norway)**

The aim of this conference is to support professionals, scientists, advocates, user organisations and policy makers worldwide, in their collective effort to promote mental health and to prevent mental disorders in their communities and countries. The conference is designed to incorporate contributions from a wide series of disciplines, cultures and backgrounds. Its success depends upon multi-dimensional presentation and debate.

For more information: <http://www.worldconference2006.no/>

12-13 October 2006**FEANTSA conference on ensuring access to health for homeless people, Warsaw (Poland)**

FEANTSA, the European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless organises a conference entitled "The right to health is a human right: ensuring access to health for homeless people".

The conference aims to point out the difficulties and issues with which homeless people are faced - ranging from the type of health problems faced by homeless people and the issue of complex and multiple needs; barriers to care faced by homeless people and finding solutions to overcome them; policy solutions to tackle the health needs of homeless people; and the right to health for homeless people. The conference will feature 5 workshops.

To register: send an E-mail at christine.lambert@feantsa.org

For more information: FEANTSA's website, <http://www.feantsa.org/code/en/hp.asp>

12-15 October 2006**WARP IX World Congress of Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Athens (Greece)**

The main goals of WAPR (World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation) are the promotion of rehabilitation services and staff training in Africa, Asia, Europe, America and the Pacific region through regional seminars and conferences as well as the improvement of the quality of life of individuals and families suffering from mental disorders throughout the world.

The main theme of the conference is the globalisation phenomena and its impact on the implementation of rehabilitation programs in the various geopolitical areas of the planet.

For more information: the WARP website, <http://www.wapr.2006athens.gr/en/>

16-20 October 2006**Forensic Mental Health Lectures, Kings College London (United Kingdom)**

The Forensic Mental Health Teaching Unit / Department of Forensic Mental Health Science at the Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College London, is organising a series of lectures by guest speaker Professor Christopher Patrick, University of Minnesota (USA).

These lectures will be dedicated to:

- antisocial and addictive behaviours;
- processes underlying aggression and related impulse control problems
- psychopathy in criminals and non-criminals;
- implications for treatment of recent findings on the neurobiology of psychopathy and externalizing disorders.

For more information: contact person, Dinah Konadu, Tel +44 20 7848 0123 E-mail, dinah.konadu@iop.kcl.ac.uk

18-20 October 2006**CEES-ENA International Colloquium, "The right to employment of disabled workers in Europe: Some worthy examples for the public services?", Strasbourg (France)**

The colloquium, organised by the CEES-ENA (Centre des Etudes Européennes de Strasbourg – Ecole Nationale d'Administration), will gather national and international experts coming from the research field and administrative practice as well as from the civil society.

The objectives of the colloquium are information and exchange of innovative practices but also the creation of new inter-administration and multidisciplinary networks aiming at harmonising the efforts in this field and at thinking about an approach that would target the challenges of a society evolving with diversity.

For more information: contact person, Agnès Bucaille-Euler, Tel +33 3 88 21 45 31, Fax +33 3 88 21 45 41, or visit the CEES website, <http://www.cees-europe.fr/fr/formations/agenda.php#handicap>

18-21 October 2006

7th IUHPE European Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education, "Globalisation and Equity: Consequences for Health Promotion Policies and Practices" (Budapest, Hungary)

This conference will focus on different aspects of globalisation and of inequalities in health. A major goal of the conference is to provide a platform for review, analysis and discussion of tackling health inequalities at the global and community levels to key players in health promotion and health education from across Europe. Over the course of four days, participants and attendees will have the chance to share information about health promotion policy issues, on-going research, existing evidence and practical experience.

For further information: the Conference Secretariat, Tel. +36 1 311 66 87, E-mail congress@motesz.hu, or see the conference website www.motesz.hu

19-20 October 2006

3rd Three-Country Convention Care in Psychiatry – "Wissen schafft Pflege – Pflege schafft Wissen: Psychiatrische Pflege als Praxis und Wissenschaft", Vienna (Austria)

The aim of this convention is to impart and promote current knowledge with regard to psychiatric healthcare and nursing: contributions on the application of theory and research, on research about problems in practice and interventions, innovative practices and other contributions.

You are welcome to send abstracts for own contributions and to register for this event.

Contact person: Nico Oud, nico.oud@freeler.nl, Tel +31 (0)20 409 0368

For further information: the conference website, <http://www.oudconsultancy.nl/dreilander/index.html?1140446978484>

19-21 October 2006

19th CEFEC Conference, "The social economy and employment of people with mental health problems", Sevilla (Spain)

This year the CEFEC (Confederation of European Social Firms) conference is organised in Seville, in cooperation with FAISEM (Andalusian Foundation for the Social Integration of the Mentally Ill). The conference brings together employees (users of mental health services), members, mental health professionals and managers to exchange views and practices on social issues, the promotion of community awareness, the employment of people with psychosocial problems, and the organisation, management and financial issues of Social Firms and social co-operatives.

Its programme includes housing, occupational and recreational facilities and employment initiatives: vocational orientation and training, Social Firms and supported employment programmes.

For more information: CEFEC website, www.cefec.org and FAISEM website, www.faisem.es

22-25 October 2006

ISQua's 23rd International Conference, "Improving Healthcare: The Challenge of Continuous Change" (London, UK)

With the theme of "Improving Healthcare: the Challenge of Continuous Change", this multi-disciplinary quality healthcare program will be of value to all health policy makers, planners, professionals, providers, patients and their representatives.

Enquiries only by e-mail: isqua@isqua.org, Tel +61 3 9417 6971, Fax +61 3 9417 6851

For further information: ISQua's website: www.isqua.org

NEW!! 25-27 October 2006

e4p Final Conference, Ghent (Belgium)

By presenting research findings and recommendations from the Europe for Patients (e4p) project, the conference will provide a platform for patient mobility stakeholders to discuss options addressing challenges and realising opportunities for the benefits of European health systems.

The e4p Final Conference in Ghent is the most recent piece in this process and an essential element in the consultation on the future of health services in Europe with the experts, delegates from the European Commission (DG Research., DG Sanco among others), the European Parliament, the Member States, funding institutions, non governmental organisations, and other stakeholders.

For more information: *Europe for Patients' website,*

<http://www.iese.edu/en/events/Projects/conference/Home/e4pFinalConference.asp>

27-28 October 2006

Inclusion Europe's Conference, "Fighting for our Rights!", Brussels (Belgium)

The conference, entitled "*Fighting for our Rights! The use of anti-discrimination laws to protect people with intellectual disabilities*", will be a unique opportunity to discuss in depth disability-based discrimination with the partners who have worked in their country to promote the non-discrimination legislation, and can report about real cases of discrimination.

Participants will debate on the following issues:

- achievement of non-discrimination policy at European level, including case law regarding disability-based discrimination;
- cases of discrimination in employment and occupation in concrete terms;
- challenges, policy orientations and lobbying strategies for the following years in order to complete and achieve a comprehensive legislation and good practices against discrimination.

For more information: *Inclusion Europe's website,* www.inclusion-europe.org.

2-5 November 2006

EAEA's Seminars on citizenship education, Florence (Italy)

In this series of two seminars, organized on the theme "*Citizenship Education: A Bridge to European Citizenship?*", the European association for Education of Adults (EAEA) plans to tackle the issue of European Citizenship as a possible bridge to increased European understanding among the people of Europe (Course 1) and ask, whether citizenship education can be a means to further this understanding (Course 2).

For more information: *contact person, Ellinor Haase, E-mail:* eaea-main@eaea.org, or see the EAEA website, www.eaea.org

7-9 November 2006

2nd belgo-senegalese conference on mental health, "Désarrois et Constructions – Les intervenants face aux nouveaux contextes" ("Helplessness and Building – Players facing new backgrounds"), Dakar (Senegal)

In Africa as in Europe, ways of life are changing. Economic constraints, social contingencies and new emerging cultural references are giving rise to these changes, which act on the people's physical and mental health, especially on the most vulnerable.

This second belgo-senegalese meeting will be an opportunity to discuss these phenomena with sociologists and anthropologists. It will also be an occasion to highlight some innovative and inventive projects of care made up by practitioners. Five workshops will be organised.

For more information: *the conference's secretariat, Tel +32.2.511.55.43, E-mail* emessens@skynet.be

7-10 November 2006

XIV World Congress of Inclusion International, "Inclusion for All", Acapulco (Mexico)

The goal of the congress is to add voices to the growing global movement demanding changes to social, economic and political conditions which create inequity and social exclusion.

It will be an occasion to:

- exchange experiences, knowledge and visions among people from all over the world to promote inclusion;
- strengthen the capacity of families and family organizations to impact on decisions made by governments and multilateral agencies;
- strengthen the voices of people with intellectual disabilities and improve the visibility of their issues locally, regionally and globally;

- build a global plan of action to promote inclusion and address poverty and exclusion and a strategy for implementing the new UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

For more information: the congress' website, <http://www.inclusion-mexico.org.mx/english/index.htm>

NEW!! 9-10 November 2006

"Empower", a European Civil Society Forum, Bergamo (Italy)

This forum, organised by the European Commission, will be based on the EU White Paper on Communication Policy which was presented last February (COM(2006)35 final).

The "Empower" Civil Society Forum is an event designed to provide the European Commission with specific opinions and recommendations on how to improve the EU communication and information, empowering citizens and participatory democracy.

The "Empower" forum's aim is to explore how we might begin to fill the still existing gap between European Citizens and Institutions. In order to do so, the Forum is expected to adopt some concrete suggestions related to a set of priorities recalled by the White Paper: the European Public Sphere; improving civic education; connecting citizens with each other; connecting the citizens and the public institutions; the digital divide.

The forum will be divided into two half-day plenary sessions (openings and conclusions) and one day of parallel workshops.

For more information: contact person, Paolo Alberti, Tel +39-06-699 99 249, E-mail paolo.alberti@ec.europa.eu, or visit the European Commission's website, <http://ec.europa.eu/italia>

10 November 2006

Colloquium of the ASBL L'Autre « lieu » - RAPA, Brussels (Belgium)

To celebrate its 25th birthday, the ASBL L'Autre « lieu » - RAPA is organising a colloquium around the question: "What are psychiatry and mental health in a context of globalization and bio-politics?".

Debates and workshops will take place, with participants such as Mario Collucci (psychiatrist, Trieste Department of Mental Health, - Italy), Pierangelo Di Vittorio (philosopher, University of Bari - Italy), Patrick Coupechoux (journalist, Le Monde Diplomatique), as well as other people coming from various backgrounds.

For more information: contact persons, Yves-Luc Conreur, yvesluc.autreliu@tiscali.be, or Laurence Mons, laurence@autreliu.be, or the L'autre « lieu » - RAPA's website, <http://www.autreliu.be/>

26-28 November 2006

6th International Conference "Public benefit for the Disabled", Cracow (Poland)

The conference will take place in connection with ceremonial inauguration of 2007 – European Year of Equal Opportunities for All.

Debates will proceed about oncoming matters:

- obtaining the status of organisation of public benefit and organisational and administrative service;
- cooperation of national and local governments with non-governmental organisations on the base of legislative regulations and disability laws;
- impact of laws, concerning non-governmental organisations, on: rehabilitation, accessibility, transport, education, etc... of disabled people; anti-discrimination activities and equal opportunities for all; mass media as instruments exposing activities of non-governmental organisations...
- practices of non-governmental organisations of public benefit (or their counterparts in other European countries) and their influence on activities for equal opportunities for all.

For more information: the website of the Polish Association of Disabled People's website, www.pson.ip.krakow.pl

7-8 December 2006

EASPD 10th Anniversary Colloquium and Seminar on the Right to Education for All, Brussels (Belgium)

On 7 December, EASPD (the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities) will celebrate 10 years of very fruitful networking between service providers and cooperation with stakeholders towards true equalisation of opportunities for people with disabilities through effective and high quality services. The anniversary-colloquium will be on social service provision for people with a disability in Europe.

On 8 December, EASPD organises a seminar on the right to education for all in order to examine the state of play of implementation of the Salamanca declaration (1994) and to discuss the proceedings with all stakeholders.

For more information: send an E-mail at info@easpd.be

10-14 December 2006

5th International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health, "Living in Harmony: Promoting creative synergy in a stressful world", Hong Kong (China)

With internationalisation and advancement in medical technology, global citizens live under increasing stress due to growing poverty, health inequalities and uncertainties resulted from emergence of new diseases, natural disasters, human tragedies and pain caused by social problems and conflicts. Social workers all look for creative solutions and long for pragmatic interventions leading to harmony and bliss for all. The Fifth International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health will provide a platform to share evidence-based practices among social workers from diverse cultures and societies.

Within the five-day programme, there will be physical exercises, tai-chi, hands-on techniques of Asian origin, Satellite Symposia in social service organisations, field visits as well as social programme and local hospitality with "Hong Kong style". Study Tours and Post-Conference Tours will also be organised to give the participants a first-hand experience of the cultural heritage of the East.

For more information: the conference dedicated website,

<http://www.swh2006.com/en/welcome.html>

16 February 2007

EAP-SFU European Symposium "PSYCHIATRY - PSYCHOLOGY - PSYCHOTHERAPY: Similarities and Differences", Vienna (Austria)

The European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP), in collaboration with the Sigmund Freud University (SFU), organises a European Symposium on the theme "*PSYCHIATRY - PSYCHOLOGY - PSYCHOTHERAPY: Similarities and Differences*" at the Sigmund Freud University in Vienna.

Based on the "*Strasbourg Declaration on Psychotherapy of 1990*" the EAP represents high training standards for a scientifically based and stands for a free and independent practice of psychotherapy.

To register to the conference: send an E-mail at eap.headoffice@europsyche.org

For more information: EAP website, <http://www.europsyche.org>

NEW!! 9-11 March 2007

"Investing in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research" conference, Venice (Italy)

The 8th International Workshop on costs and assessment in psychiatry "*Investing in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research*" is taking place in Venice on 9 - 11 March 2007. The event is organised by the International Center of Mental Health Policy and Economics (ICMPE) with the support of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) - Section on Mental Health Economics.

This event would provide a good opportunity of exchanging experience and key results in the field of mental health as well as raising awareness about the MHEEN II (Mental Health Economics European Network phase II - 2005-2007) network. MHEEN members are strongly encouraged to send their contributions to the ICMPE before 30 October 2006.

For further information and to download the abstract and registration forms: the ICMPE webpage <http://www.icmpe.org/test1/events/events.htm>.

17-21 March 2007

15th European Congress of Psychiatry, Madrid (Spain)

This annual congress is organised by the Association of European Psychiatrists (AEP).

The theme of the congress will be: "*European Psychiatry – Science and Art*".

The aim of the congress is to open new perspectives on the Science and Art of psychiatry and on issues related to treatment and patient care. The state-of-the-art lectures, plenary lectures and core symposia will provide a full update on the most important aspects of treatment in psychiatry and on the latest achievements in this field.

The congress also intends to comprehensively cover all various aspects of modern psychiatry and to favour meetings of psychiatrists with different backgrounds and orientations.

Proposals for symposia, workshops, oral presentations and posters are welcome.

For more information: the congress website, <http://www.kenes.com/aep2007/welcome.asp>, or send an e-mail at aep2007@kenes.com.

10-12 May 2007

Europe in Action Conference, "Citizens' Rights for All – Full citizen's rights and legal protection for people with intellectual disabilities", Warsaw (Poland)

During the European Year of equal Opportunities 2007, people with intellectual disabilities, family members, legal professionals and policy makers will discuss at this event the following main themes:

- Support in decision-making and legal representation;
- Full citizenship and legal protection;
- Withdrawal of legal capacity and its consequences.

For more information: the conference dedicated website, www.EuropeInAction.org

31 May–2 June 2007

MHE conference 2007, "No Health without Mental Health: from slogan to reality", Vienna (Austria)

The MHE conference will focus on the outcomes of the consultation process of the European Commission's Green Paper "*Improving the Mental Health of the Population*" and the upcoming strategy for the next years.

The focus of the conference will be on the connection and the coherence between European policies and the impact they have on the mental health of the population.

Lectures, round-table discussions and workshops will give opportunity for sharing information and deepening knowledge but also for exchange of best practices.

Participants coming from all European countries will be encouraged to discuss the possibilities of implementing strategies on mental health throughout the whole life-span and to initiate cooperation between the different organisations and institutions working on mental health issues at the national and European level.

Additionally, MHE's annual General Assembly will take place at the end of the conference.

You can contribute by sending us your ideas for workshops you would be interested in.

For further information please contact: office@promente-wien.at or info@mhe-sme.org

NEW!! 19-23 August 2007

World Mental Health Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health, Hong Kong (China)

The 2007 Congress will bring together international and local experts with diverse backgrounds including mental health practitioners, community partners, as well as users and carers of mental health services, to address a wide variety of topics of significant interest in mental health.

This year's congress theme is "*Impact of Culture on Mental Health: East meet West*". The innovative programme will cover four tracks: Importance of Environment on Mental Health, Cultural Issues on Mental Health, Advancement in Care and Treatment, and trends in Promotion and Prevention of Recovery. Post-congress workshops will also be arranged in major cities in Mainland China to promote cultural exchange and exposure for the delegates from both the East and West.

For more information: the Congress Secretariat, Tel +852 2778 7173, Fax +852 2770 9345, e-mail info@wmhc2007.com, or the congress dedicated website, www.wmhc2007.com

18-21 November 2007

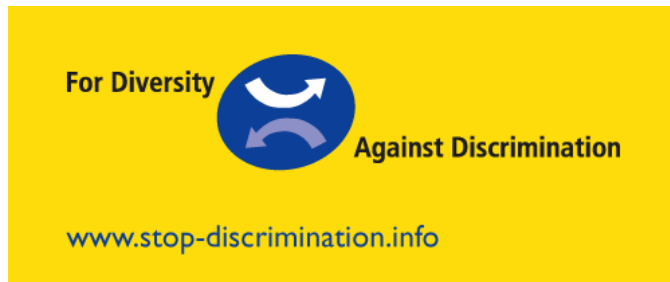
SMES-EUROPA 10th Conference, "After 15 years...", Rome (Italy)

15 years ago (1992), in Rome, a first seminar was organised to mark the beginning of the SMES' movement.

The aim of the conference is:

1. A retrospective evaluation: "...*what is the situation after 15 years?*," what has been changed in a positive or a negative way?
2. Perspectives and proposals for the future, for absolute priorities in right and access to health and social services for homeless people.

For more information on the conference: the SMES-EUROPA website, [http://www.smes-europa.org/Rome2007_10conf SMES UK.htm](http://www.smes-europa.org/Rome2007_10conf_SMES_UK.htm)



Do you wish to share information, announce something or make a contribution to the MHE Newsletter?

Please send it to info@mhe-sme.org

Mental Health Europe is committed to:

- the promotion of mental health and prevention of mental distress;
- protecting the rights of people with mental health problems;
- removing stigma and discrimination;
- ensuring a fair share of resources for mental health.

Do you share our vision? Then join MHE now and you will strengthen the voice for mental health in Europe.

First name:

Family name:

Address:

City:

Country:

Tel.:

Fax:

E-mail:

Occupation or organisation:

Date:

Account number:

Bank details:

Completed form to be returned to:

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