



ANNUAL REPORT 2006

Operation of the European Network for Smoking Prevention



European Network for Smoking Prevention

Annual Report 2006

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1 Introduction

... Operational Overview

2006 saw several changes for the European Network for Smoking Prevention, both internally and within the context of the ever-changing status quo in the area of tobacco control in Europe. On 1 January 2006 Belgium introduced a ban on smoking in all enclosed workplaces; the Czech Republic likewise introduced legislation banning smoking in some public places (such as schools, cinemas, theatres, sports facilities, administrative buildings) with effect as of 1 January 2006; in June 2006 the Finnish parliament approved a bill banning smoking in bars and restaurants as of June 2007; in May 2006 the Lithuanian parliament passed a bill banning smoking in public places as of January 2008; in Luxembourg a smoking ban in public places came into effect on 5 September 2006; on 1 January 2006 Spain introduced a complete ban on smoking at the workplace, including bars and restaurants over 100 m²; comprehensive smoke-free legislation was introduced in Scotland on 26 March 2006.

In 2006 ENSP continued to support the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control. ENSP attended the first Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Framework Convention for Tobacco Control, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 6 to 17 February 2006. The main decisions taken at COP-1 were as follows: to establish the permanent secretariat of the Treaty within the World Health Organization in Geneva with a budget of USD 8 m. (voluntary assessed contributions) during the next two years; to create working groups to begin developing protocols in the areas of cross-border advertising and illicit trade and to help countries establish smoke-free places and effective ways of regulating tobacco products; to allow the Conference of the Parties to assess progress made by countries in implementing the measures required by the Treaty through a pilot reporting questionnaire agreed by the Parties during the Conference; to establish an ad-hoc group of experts that will study economically viable alternatives to tobacco growing and production, with a view to making recommendations on diversification initiatives for those countries whose economies depend heavily on tobacco production.

ENSP's activities in the course of 2006 also centred on year two of the European Commission's media campaign 'HELP – For a Life Without Tobacco'. ENSP members devoted nearly 500 working days to the HELP campaign, by participating in press conferences, attending the HELP road-show, contributing to the HELP website (www.help-eu.com). In 2006 there was an acceleration of public events, partnerships with national organisations or grass-roots initiatives. Partnership with the ENSP evolved through participation in the pre-tests, developing a calendar for national events and campaigns and continued work on the media observatory.

The ENSP General Assembly took place in Brussels on 21 April 2006, during which a new Executive Board was elected. The 2006 Network Meeting incorporating a research strategy seminar took place in Sofia, Bulgaria from 20 to 22 November 2006, followed by a General Assembly on 22 November 2006. Given the fact that a strong science base for tobacco control policy is essential to improve societal understanding of the effects of tobacco on health and to best direct resources toward its control and acknowledging the need for a strong science base, the Network Meeting commenced with a one-day Tobacco Control Research Strategy Seminar, which was designed to contribute fully to the fulfilment of the gap at EU level for greater research co-ordination and capacity. The meeting comprised various NGO representatives, ENSP as well as EC experts, government investigators, at both national and regional levels. The aim of the research seminar was to produce co-ordinated and comprehensive EU research options that will fully contribute to the evidence base of tobacco control policies. It assessed EU capacity, co-ordination and possible funding and contributed to developing a co-ordinated EU tobacco research strategy.

ENSP continued to be active in supporting the establishment of smoke-free public places, including workplace legislation at both EU and national levels, by liaising with and supporting its national counterparts and responding to calls for action.

Internally there were certain changes within the ENSP Secretariat, with two members of staff departing and one new member of staff being taken on board to reinforce project capacities.

... **Mission Statement**

The European Network for Smoking Prevention (ENSP) is an international non-profit making organisation (aisbl), which was established under Belgium law (no. 16377/97) in 1997.

ENSP's mission is to develop a strategy for co-ordinated action among organisations active in tobacco control in Europe by sharing information and experience and through co-ordinated activities and research. The aim of ENSP is to create greater coherence among smoking-control activities and to promote comprehensive tobacco-control policies at regional, national and EU level. ENSP also ensures the effective intervention and contribution of tobacco-control advocates in European/national policies, strategies and measures.

ENSP brings together 625 member organisations active in the field of tobacco control, represented by two national coalition representatives from 23 EU Member States plus Bulgaria, Iceland, Norway, Romania and Switzerland, and one representative from several networks active in tobacco control in the EU (EFA, NSFH, INWAT, EUNS).

ENSP is governed by a General Assembly comprising two representatives from each of the national coalitions against tobacco in Europe and of one representative from each of the international networks active in tobacco control in Europe. ENSP is administered by a regularly elected Executive Board, which delegates the daily management and co-ordination of the network to a Secretariat in Brussels.

ENSP is funded in part by the annual membership fees and in part by the European Commission via annual applications for funding within the scope of the EC Public Health Programme.

ENSP evolves and adapts ensuring the continued development of networking on a pan-European scale among non-profit organisations, in order to increase the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of smoking prevention activities on a non-governmental level. This action is complementary to governmental tobacco-control policy development at EU and at national/regional levels. We aim to benefit from mutual learning based on the coalitions' comparative advantages, the sharing of resources and experience and also aim to form a consensus surrounding tobacco-control issues.

On the basis of more than eight years of experience, we know that collaboration, co-ordinated activity, alliance-building and capacity-building are vital components of any successful tobacco-control initiative, be it at purely NGO level, or between governmental and non-governmental organisations, to encourage NGO participation, stakeholder dialogue and input in areas of expertise.

The general objective of the project is to develop, encourage and support tobacco control and prevention measures, actions and information exchange with the aim of:

- ensuring effective intervention and contribution of tobacco control advocates at European/national policies, strategies and measures;
- reducing the prevalence and uptake of tobacco and the tobacco related deaths in the European Union.

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... ENSP Secretariat

The ENSP Secretariat is located at: 144 Chaussée d'Ixelles, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.

In 2006 the ENSP Secretariat comprised the following members of staff:

Francis Grogna

Director
(full-time)

Sophie Van Damme

Liaison Officer
(part-time)

Paloma Martin

Research & Strategy
(full-time)

Mariann Skar

Project Leader
(part-time, as of 06.11.2006)

Ana Camões

Administration and Finance Assistant
(full-time)

Michael Forrest

Information Officer
(full-time)

Javier Fábregas

Communications
(part-time, until 29.06.2006)

... ENSP Membership

In 2006 ENSP membership totalled 28 national coalitions comprising 625 member organisations. The membership breakdown is detailed below:

National Coalitions – number of member organisations:

Austria	10	Lithuania	23
Belgium	13	Luxembourg	2
Bulgaria	8	Netherlands	25
Cyprus	14	Norway	2
Czech Republic	38	Poland	13
Denmark	14	Portugal	2
Finland	40	Romania	18
France	32	Slovakia	11
Germany	97	Slovenia	28
Greece	11	Spain	42
Hungary	24	Sweden	20
Iceland	5	Switzerland	62
Ireland	8	UK	29
Italy	15		
Latvia	19		
		TOTAL:	625

Network Members – number of members or member organisations:

EFA	34 member organisations
ENSFH	20 member organisations
EUNS	22 member organisations
INWAT	184 members

In the course of 2006 ENSP did not receive any new formal applications for membership.

... Specific Objectives and Priorities 2006

The specific objectives for 2006 were defined as follows:

- To create effective co-operation and actively support tobacco control advocates in the EU and EFTA countries and to facilitate the transfer of technology and know-how based on European benchmarking, while at the same time learning from experiences.
- To support the European Commission in its efforts towards a smoke-free Europe.
- To support and contribute to the development of Community's strategy on tobacco control, mapping, assessing and evaluating measures and actions on:
 - preventing sales to children and adolescents,
 - pricing and taxation,
 - prohibiting advertising and
 - second-hand smoke.
- To continue to contribute to greater research co-ordination and capacity by developing a European tobacco research strategy and research options and interventions at regional, national and EU levels.
- To investigate the impact of health warnings and colour photographs on tobacco packages on consumer habits, in particular young people, including formulating recommendations for improvement and adaptation of the health warnings.
- To ensure better understanding of the effects of international/EU/national and regional policies and actions on health and to support and encourage the legal and other instruments in the field of tobacco control; priorities outlined by all members in previous network meetings (Cracow/Limassol) including:
 - the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control,
 - article 11 of Directive 37/2001/EC,
 - support for the tobacco advertising Directive,
 - support and promote a ban on smoking in work-places, fully involving trade unions and enlarging the EU network of trade unions for tobacco control created under previous EC funding (2001/2002 ENSP FWP),
 - input to the *Green Paper on Smoke-free Environments 2006*.
- To initiate and co-ordinate large-scale, innovative, priority-driven and cost-effective projects in support of policy development in order to build on know-how and scientifically sound information.

2 Activity Report

... Membership and networking

In the area of membership, ENSP aims to do the following:

- develop collaboration and build alliances;
- draw together expertise and experience from associations, promote better knowledge and communication flow in order to increase tobacco control capacity and expertise across Europe.

In this context, whilst the ENSP Secretariat has often co-ordinated with coalitions and networks for their input of information and experience as a group, this year ENSP was involved in a series of meetings, thus developing more personal contacts and collaboration, using not only specific geographical expertise, but also the tobacco-control expertise of individual coalition or network representatives, which is extremely high quality, rewarding, motivating and complementary to the ENSP Secretariat's own, EU-level experience.

On 19 January 2006, ENSP was invited to attend a meeting of the Belgian coalition and presented its roles and its objectives to the participants, together with the synergies developed with other European activities, such as the HELP! Campaign.

ENSP attended the EPHA Policy Co-ordination Meetings on 25 January, 8 March, 3 May, 7 June (Annual General Assembly), 12 July, 13 September, 18 October 2006. These meetings are a very important opportunity for ENSP to reinforce the co-ordination of tobacco control activities within the general framework of public health actions and to strengthen the synergies with other European health organisations.

Five ENSP Board meetings were organised in Brussels (1 March, 30 March, 21 April, 9 June, 22 September 2006). These meetings aimed to ensure the close and continuous information flow surrounding the ENSP Secretariat's activities, co-ordinate ENSP priorities according to the changing political agenda, prepare the annual network meeting and design ENSP long-term goals. In addition, an extraordinary meeting was also held on 3 October 2006 involving three Board members in order to prepare certain topics of the Sofia network meeting in greater depth.

On 21 April 2006, an ENSP General Assembly meeting was organised in Brussels. This General Assembly was very important for the organisation's future since a new Executive Board had to be elected and the basis for future strategy and partnerships had to be discussed. The basis of the discussions was provided with the presentations of the first results of "The Tobacco Control Scale: a new scale to measure country activity", the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) and the first guidelines of the research seminar on tobacco to be organised in Sofia in November 2006.

On 23 May 2006, following several preliminary contacts in 2005, and with development funding from Smoke-free Liverpool, ENSP hosted the first meeting of the *Working with Communities to achieve Tobacco Control* programme management unit, gathering at this initial stage delegates from UK, Sweden, Italy, Romania, and also from the ENSP Secretariat. This project aims to build a network of European partners, who will work together to address priority tobacco control issues, focusing on local interventions, exchange of good practice, and the involvement of communities. It is also an excellent opportunity to create new contacts between ENSP representatives and regional partners, thus encouraging cross-cutting exchanges and synergies.

From 21 to 22 June 2006, the ENSP Secretariat attended the EEN (EPHA Environmental Network) General Assembly meeting. We took advantage of this European meeting to underline the importance of ETS as a pollutant to be tackled, and to tighten the relationship between our networks.

On 27 June 2006 ENSP participated in the important EPHA co-ordination meeting on the Television Without Frontiers Directive to contribute to the EPHA Position Paper on the revision of the Television Without Frontiers Directive. As far as tobacco is concerned, ENSP

strongly recommended that the revision of the directive should in no way undermine any of the terms of the tobacco advertising directive. As part of its position paper EPHA stated: *EPHA urges that cigarette and tobacco bans are upheld in the proposed Directive and extended to non-linear services as well, as the only way of providing more effective protection.*

On 29 June 2006, the ENSP Secretariat and Trudy Prins, ENSP President, welcomed RAND Europe (NL) for a PHP evaluation interview. DG SANCO sought ENSP's input as a stakeholder of the Public Health Programme 2003-2008. In the programme decision (1786/2002/EC) of the PHP, it is stipulated that the programme should have a mid-term evaluation. This evaluation was performed by RAND Europe and focused on the effectiveness of the programme in relation to its objectives. It was also to identify lessons for future action. RAND Europe conducted interviews with representatives of different groups of stakeholders in order to gain a better understanding of the potential impact of the programme.

On 12 September 2006, the ENSP Secretariat was present when EU Health Commissioner Markos Kyprianou presented the *European Smoke-free Hospitals Awards 2006* to representatives of hospitals from Ireland, France and Germany. These awards were given to hospitals in the European Union, which had made the most significant contribution to developing smoke-free health care. This event was also an opportunity for additional exchanges with the ENSH (European Network of Smoke-free Hospitals) representatives.

From 11 to 13 October 2006, WHO Office for the European Region together with the Slovenian government organised a meeting in Bled, Slovenia, which was attended by representatives from south-eastern European (SEE) countries: i.e. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The overall aim of the seminar was to reinforce tobacco control activities in these countries. One of the topics was collaboration with civil society. At the invitation of WHO Europe, a member of the ENSP Board was invited to make a presentation on 'Building effective coalitions for tobacco control in the enlarged Europe'.

On 12 October 2006, the ENSP President, Vice-President and Director met the Head of Unit of DG SANCO C4 and one of the administrators in Luxembourg. The aim of this meeting was to introduce the newly elected ENSP Board to DG SANCO and to co-ordinate future collaboration between both entities in the scope of various subjects such as the HELP campaign, the ENSP network meeting in Sofia, and the activities of the next grant agreement.

On 20 October 2006, ENSP was invited by the Working Party Lifestyle to attend their meeting in Stockholm, Sweden. Represented by their Swedish member, ENSP contributed to the workshop and built new links with this forum of discussion.

On 14 November 2006, the ENSP Secretariat met the new Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA) in Luxembourg. PHEA is the European Commission's Executive Agency for the Public Health Programme. It was set up to manage the Community Public Health Programme through managing projects funded under the Public Health Programme, organising technical meetings, and feeding back the results to the user community and into the policy-making process at national and EU levels. This meeting enabled the participants to introduce themselves and to discuss the processes and the objectives of their future collaboration.

From 20 to 22 November 2006 ENSP held its annual Network Meeting and General Assembly in Sofia, Bulgaria. This conference is an essential event where the ENSP members, partners and invited speakers can exchange the latest scientific information on tobacco control, discuss their views and opinions, and develop a consensus on the priorities of the year. The annual network meeting is also a very important opportunity to invite or meet delegates from European countries, which would not yet be members of ENSP. In Sofia, contacts were strengthened with the Estonian and Maltese participants, who showed a strong interest in further developing their national coalitions and becoming ENSP members in the near future.

... Information dissemination

During 2006 ENSP continued to develop and improve the dissemination of information through various information releases and a weekly news bulletin.

The *European News Bulletin* appeared 37 times from January 2006 until December 2006. The *European News Bulletin* is a weekly review of tobacco-related news, EU and WHO issues and other relevant activities and developments, such as network announcements and news. At the end of 2006 the *European News Bulletin* was distributed to 1076 subscribers via the GLOBALink network.

In the course of 2005 a need to restructure the existing web site had already been identified in order to achieve the following targets: increase the added value in order to maximise interaction among ENSP members; create a more effective platform for providing news and information; grouping and focusing existing materials more relevantly and in a streamlined way; making certain structural changes with the aim of removing out-of-date and no longer relevant information. The ENSP website was thus completely overhauled and redesigned. The new ENSP website features relevant and up-to-the-minute information on developments in tobacco control, a European observatory, information on the ENSP network. Some internal management tools are also incorporated in the website to simplify members' contributions and actions with a focus on confidentiality in order to resist any intrusions as securely as possible: these include a protected Members Only section, which serves as an interface with ENSP members and a protected discussion section, access to which is by invitation only. These features are designed to be an efficient tool for speedy and transparent communication structures within the network. The new website is more user-friendly and is more in line with latest technologies and expectations.

In addition, much attention is paid to ensuring that the information disseminated by the ENSP Secretariat reaches all the members, that members' input likewise reaches the ENSP Secretariat and that this input is distributed consistently throughout the network. In 2006 the ENSP Secretariat distributed several information releases among its membership, including but not restricted to the following: Public Health Programme Information Day; Study on Lung Cancer in Spain; Public Health Programme New Call for Projects; FCTC Documentation for COP-1; Lifting the Smokescreen Report launched; Tobacco Advertising – European Commission action against non-compliant Member States; Election of new ENSP Board; Library of Selected Source Documents; New Rules governing Tobacco Products in Iceland; Smoking and Blindness Position Paper; Green Paper on the Role of Civil Society in Drugs Policy in the EU; Norwegian Reports and Campaigns.

... ENSP Core Grant Reports and Projects

➤ **Why People Smoke**

The aim of the *Why People Smoke* project was to draw together an interdisciplinary network of experts (nutritionists, physiologists, mental health experts, alcohol experts, drugs experts etc.) in order to construct tailor-made programmes for cessation, which will take into account the wider influences that determine uptake and quitting of smoking. These influences will be quantified by member/candidate states and hierarchised, taking into account cross-cutting issues (including gender and socio-economic inequalities) in order to discover the full range of underpinning causes. This will provide the grass-roots data for a full and coherent analysis of the situation in Europe based on solid scientific evidence.

The communication strategy consists of applying the analysis of cultural, socio-economic and gender influences on smoking behaviour to the results of research in tobacco control that already exists and anti-smoking communication campaigns at global, European/national and regional level (namely the WHO/CDC reports on media campaigns and youth campaigns globally). The aim is to devise a benchmarking tool to measure the impact of campaigns at European and national levels so as to understand more clearly why a message may not be getting through effectively.

In December 2005 the research institute Ipsos MORI, London, UK, had conducted a survey on behalf of ENSP entitled *Reasons Why People Smoke – A Five Country European Study*. This study explored the full range of underlying reasons why people smoke (apart from the obvious physical addiction to nicotine), and influences on uptake. It is clear that a desire to try new things, a sensation or confirmation of entry into adulthood, and peer pressure all act to stimulate young people to start smoking. This is compounded by the fact that many smokers spend time with other smokers, thus making it harder for them to give up. They get cravings or urges to smoke, and find that smoking helps them deal with stress. The authors of the survey advised that any communications activity focussing on preventing young people from taking up smoke should therefore take into account the 'starting triggers' - in an attempt to divert young people into other more fruitful activities.

For the working period 2006 a workshop was convened involving a wide range of interdisciplinary experts to discuss the initial findings and develop an initial analysis for a set of recommendations. Following this workshop the experts submitted their final reports to ENSP. ENSP collected the expert reports and had them peer-reviewed. The reviewed reports were submitted to the experts for consideration and the final review was returned to the ENSP Secretariat for final editing and harmonisation before submitting the document for publication. This publication is due to appear in early May 2007.

➤ ***The Tobacco Control Scale: a new scale to measure country activity***

ENSP worked closely with tobacco-control expert Luk Joossens on the update of the previous ENSP report entitled *Effective Tobacco Control Policies in 28 European Countries* (October 2004) now expanded to 30 countries, involving a panel of experts and the input of tobacco control coalitions in all countries involved. A questionnaire was sent out to correspondents in 30 European countries, using a scoring system designed by a panel of international tobacco control experts.

The aim of this report was to gain a better understanding of tobacco control in the new enlarged Europe and to assess the effectiveness of tobacco control policies.

The updated report was published in *Tobacco Control* Vol. 15 No. 3, June 2006.

Aim of the project

There is evidence that comprehensive tobacco control programmes can reduce smoking prevalence. In this update, the interventions which need to be prioritised in comprehensive tobacco control policies are described (cf. below). The tobacco control efforts of European countries are quantified according to a scale and the 30 European countries are classified on a scale of 0 to 100 according to these effective tobacco interventions. Finally, the merits and limitations of this rating system are discussed.

The six effective tobacco control interventions

In June 2003 the World Bank published the fact sheet *Tobacco control at a glance*, which describes six cost-effective interventions to reduce death and disease caused by tobacco use. These six cost-effective interventions are:

- higher taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products;
- bans/restrictions on smoking in public and work places;
- comprehensive bans on advertising and promotion of all tobacco products, logos and brand names;
- better consumer information: counter advertising, media coverage, research findings;
- large, direct warning labels on cigarette boxes and other tobacco products;
- help for smokers who wish to quit, including increased access to medication and other cessation therapies.

Results

The 30 countries are ranked by their total score on the scale out of a maximum possible score of 100. Only four countries (Ireland, United Kingdom, Norway, Iceland) scored 70 or more, with an eight-point gap (most differences in scores are small) to the fifth country, Malta, on 62. Only 13 countries scored above 50, 11 of them from the European Union (EU), and the second largest points gap occurs between Denmark on 45 and Portugal on 39, splitting the table into three groups: 70 and above, 45 to 62, 39 and below. Ireland had the highest overall score, 74 out of 100, and Luxembourg was bottom with 26 points. However even Ireland, much praised for its ban on smoking in public places, did not increase tobacco taxes in 2005, for the first time since 1995.

Although the Tobacco Control Scale does have limitations, this is the first time such a scale has been developed and applied to so many countries. The purpose of this new scale is to introduce a new level of systematisation into scoring tobacco control at country level. This has never been done in so many countries. The scale is a good tool as a motivation to strengthen weak polices.

... Ensure future ENSP activities under the new EU Public Health Programme

Further to the adoption of the 2006 Work Plan for implementation of the Public Health Programme 2003-2008, the European Commission published a call for project proposals on 16 February 2006. In order to present the programme's objectives and encourage potential beneficiaries to submit proposals in 2006, an Information Day was organised in Luxembourg on Wednesday 22 February 2006, which the ENSP Secretariat attended.

In April 2006 the ENSP General Assembly confirmed its willingness to have ENSP apply for funding in the framework of this call. As in 2005, it was decided that no framework project would be designed, but rather a single ENSP project application.

In close collaboration with the Board members, three main work packages were drafted, targeting three of the priority topics of the European Commission Work Plan: smoke-free workplaces, FCTC, women's exposure to SHS.

Main actions:

- Creating a database of enterprises implementing smoke-free workplace policies: the objective of such a database is to develop practical steps and tools to promote smoke-free work places at European and national levels.
- Monitor implementation of FCTC: the objective is to create national teams in every EU Member State, in accession countries and EFTA countries to follow up or assist monitoring of the implementation of FCTC in their particular country.
- Young women's exposure to second-hand smoke: the objectives are to analyse the current situation in Europe with regard to SHS exposure from a gender perspective, and particularly that of young women, to bring together experiences from countries which have implemented comprehensive smoking bans in public places (including education and workplaces) and to identify the next actions to protect women from second-hand smoke and specific research needs.

The application was very positively evaluated. The signature of the grant agreement is expected in the course of the second quarter of year 2007. The activities will be due to commence on 1 June 2007.

... **Help! Campaign**

In 2006 the key idea for implementation of the HELP! Campaign was "capitalising". It was considered as crucial by the contractor and the EC to keep the structure and themes of year 1:

- Action 1: repeat the information clips for television;
- Action 2: plan and write articles which give information on the themes chosen for publication in the printed press;
- Action 3: organise public relations events for the general public or for a target audience;
- Action 4: maintain an Internet site to provide information on smoking prevention and help for those trying to give up, as well as information on the communication measures underway.

The co-ordination of ENSP's activities in HELP was left in the hands of the responsible contractor (Ligaris) to empower national and regional adaptation. The role of the ENSP Secretariat was to provide the necessary administrative and financial management in connection with the ENSP counterparts' actions.

During the period running from 15 November 2005 till 15 November 2006, the ENSP counterparts contributed with almost 500 working days to the HELP! Campaign.

In August 2006, a call for national ENSP project proposals was launched via the ENSP website. The idea was to let each ENSP counterpart construct an action plan for their own country with a provisional budget of € 10,000 per country. The action plan naturally needed to be coherent with the framework of the HELP! Campaign and to favour field-level initiatives.

Fifteen Member States applied, some of which proposed several national projects. The proposals were evaluated by the HELP! Advisory Board in early January 2007.

... Working with communities to achieve tobacco control

In September 2004 following a meeting between the Veneto Region and the ENSP, an initial outline for a joint project was put forward.

The project aimed at:

- providing with an update on the initiatives promoted by ENSP and relevant for European regions;
- creating an exchange of best practices and gathering ideas and projects among European regions for the realisation of news proposals with ENSP.

At the end of 2004, the Government Office for the North-West proposed to ENSP to create a joint EU project on tobacco control. Smoke-Free Liverpool was contacted and contracted a consultancy to compile a project application. ENSP was involved in the discussions that led to the submission of the project proposal.

In October 2005, further to the unsuccessful application, the different parties involved decided to salvage the project with the support of Smoke-Free Liverpool.

The Programme Management Group was constituted in February 2006 and its first meeting was held in Brussels on 23 May 2006, with the fine-tuning of the short-term objectives as one of the main outputs.

On 23 May 2006, as the result of several preliminary contacts in 2005, and with development funding from Smoke-Free Liverpool, ENSP hosted the first meeting of the 'Working with communities to achieve tobacco control' programme management unit, gathering at this initial stage delegates from UK, Sweden, Italy, Romania, and from the ENSP Secretariat.

This project aims to build a network of European partners who will work together to address priority tobacco control issues, focusing on local interventions, exchange of good practice, and the involvement of the communities. It is also a very good opportunity to create new contacts between ENSP representatives and regional partners, thus encouraging cross-cutting exchanges and synergies.

The initial stages of the project will focus on young people aged 16 to 21 years old and children aged up to 5 years old. The project will aim to reduce the exposure of both groups to second-hand smoke and also reduce smoking prevalence (and the up-take of smoking) amongst 16- to 21-year-olds.

A series of initial themes would shape the project's agenda and activities:

- Adopting a "settings" approach to tobacco control – key settings will include homes, community centres, youth clubs, post-school education and training environments and also prisons;
- Developing local partnerships and working with communities to achieve tobacco control;
- Identifying innovative approaches and good practice – this will include methods of analysis, types of actions, evaluation tools;
- Disseminating the project's knowledge and influencing local, national and EU tobacco control agendas and policies.

A first mapping exercise was started in June 2006 and was finalised in the course of November 2006. The first bases for building the network were established.

... **Support for the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control**

Tobacco remains the single largest cause of preventable mortality around the world. The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) is the global response that provides the basic tools for countries to implement effective measures in order to curb the tobacco epidemic. Currently ratified by 146 countries, this Treaty must therefore be considered by all governments as an utmost and urgent priority.

To summarise its content: the provisions of the Convention, which are binding for ratifying countries, include the following measures:

- enacting comprehensive bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship;
- the placement of rotating health warnings on tobacco packaging that cover at least 30% (but ideally 50%) of the principal display areas and including pictures or pictograms;
- banning the use of misleading and deceptive terms such as "light" and "mild";
- protecting citizens from exposure to tobacco smoke in workplaces, public transport and indoor public places;
- combating smuggling, including the placing of final destination markings on packs;
- increasing tobacco taxes.

Countries that have ratified the Convention are called contracting parties and are bound by these and other provisions.

A country becomes a contracting party to the WHO FCTC ninety days after depositing a valid instrument of ratification or equivalent at the UN headquarters in New York. The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the supreme body of the Convention, which oversees implementation of the WHO FCTC. The first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-1) took place in Geneva from 6-17 February 2006.

All Contracting States for whom the Convention has entered into force by the period of the session participated in the COP with voting rights. Other States, including signatories to the Treaty, participated as observers. Non-governmental organisations in official relations with WHO and international intergovernmental organisations also participated in the first session as observers.

The Conference of the Parties considered and discussed the recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. During COP-1, Parties took decisions in technical, procedural and financial matters relating to the implementation of the Treaty, such as the establishment of the permanent secretariat, funding and financial support and monitoring and reporting on implementation progress, and the possible elaboration of protocols, among others.

The ENSP Secretariat attended COP-1 in a capacity as an observer.

... **FCTC ratification (2006)**

Throughout the entire ratification process, the ENSP continued to give support to partners in countries which had not yet ratified the FCTC, encouraging swift action and providing information and a rationale for ratification to partners.

The progress made throughout the whole ratification process was followed up with ENSP members and counterparts. An updated ratification status table was regularly circulated among ENSP members.

Among ENSP members, Greece ratified the FCTC on 27 January 2006, Romania on 27 January 2006 and Poland on 15 September 2006. By the end of 2006 Croatia, the Czech Republic and Italy had signed the Treaty, but had not yet ratified it.

... Environment and Health Strategy

The stage has been set for a new Health Strategy over recent years. Following the introduction of specific public health provisions into the EU Treaty, in the 1990s the EU worked on several 'sectoral' health programmes, looking at individual issues such as cancer, communicable diseases and health promotion. In 2000 the Commission adopted a first health strategy, which gave rise to the Public Health Programme (2003-2008) setting out a framework for action on health determinants, health threats, information and monitoring.

In late 2004, the Commission consulted stakeholders on what future action the EU should take in the field of health through the initiative *Enabling Good Health for All – A Reflection Process for a new EU Health Strategy*. The reflection process generated a broad debate amongst stakeholders, attracting around 200 responses from national and regional authorities, NGOs, universities, individual citizens and the private sector.

The European Commission is now developing a new Health Strategy which it aims to adopt in summer 2007. Building on current work, this strategy aims to provide, for the first time, an overarching strategic framework spanning core issues in health as well as health in all policies and global health issues. The strategy aims to set clear objectives to guide future work on health at the European level and to put in place implementation mechanisms to achieve those objectives, working in partnership with Member States.

On 13 December 2006, the EC launched a new consultation following the consultation process *Enabling Good Health for All – A Reflection Process for a new EU Health Strategy*. This discussion document offered stakeholders the opportunity to comment further on plans for an overarching health strategy to be adopted by the European Commission in 2007.

The questions were as follows:

Within the three broad elements of the Strategy, addressing core issues, mainstreaming health, and global health:

1) How should we prioritise between and within all these areas to focus on those which add real value at the EU level? In which areas is action at the EU level indispensable, and in which is it desirable? For example, is there a means to use the Healthy Life Years indicator or other outcome measurements to give weight to areas on which the EU should concentrate?

2) What should we realistically aim to achieve in practice in these areas of work? What broad objectives should we set for the short term and long term – 5 years and 10 years?

3) Are there issues where legislation would be appropriate? What other non-legislative instruments should be used – for example, a process similar to the Open Method of Co-ordination? How can we make better use of Impact Assessment?

4) How can different approaches be used and combined, for example approaches to different health determinants, lifecycle approaches, and strategies on key settings (education, the workplace, health care settings)?

In terms of the implementation of the Strategy:

5) How can we ensure that progress is made and that objectives are met? For example, should indicators or milestones be used? What measures or indicators could show real short term change, within the early years of the Strategy?

6) How do we ensure that the Strategy adds value to actions at Member State level? How can the responsibility for implementation be shared between the EU and Member States?

7) How could methods for involving stakeholders be improved? How can we create innovative partnerships with stakeholders?

Further comments:

8) Do you have any further comments?

Responses to the questions were prepared by ENSP in close collaboration with HEAL and were to be submitted by 12 February 2007.

... SANCO Project 2005326 (June 2006 – May 2007)

The main objectives of the project are: to continue the development of a European network for tobacco control, working towards good practice with regard to tobacco prevention activities, and cessation strategies (including web-based approaches); to develop, facilitate and support a fully dynamic and interactive network of tobacco control advocates working in collaboration with other informed stakeholder organisations towards progressive tobacco control policies.

Dissemination of results: The objectives for ENSP are to develop, facilitate and support a fully dynamic and interactive network of tobacco control advocates working in collaboration with other informed stakeholder organisations towards progressive tobacco control policies. ENSP facilitates and supports its members, pan-European and national coalitions, providing tools in the form of published reports, up-to-date information releases, transfer of technology, good practices, a regularly updated website with in-depth information and insight etc. (including a Members Only section as a tool for network co-ordination). Particular attention and importance are placed on the maintenance of communication channels with governmental organisations, in order to fully inform, support and advance policy developments. Emphasis is also placed on the results of projects 2004-2006.

The ENSP mailing list comprises over 700 recipients.

There are exchanges of information between ENSP and the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the Health and Environment Alliance, ERS, NHS Smoke-free Liverpool, Effective Tobacco Control Policies, Conselho Prevenção do Tabagismo, DG SANCO, COST, EFA, FARES, Veneto Region (Smoke-free Regions), CRUK, ECL, EHN and Non-Smokers' Rights Association (CAN) (pictorial warnings).

ENSP made a presentation (entitled: *Building effective coalitions for tobacco control in the enlarged Europe*) during the workshop organised by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in collaboration with and hosted by the Slovenian Ministry of Health, in Bled (Slovenia) from 11 to 13 October 2006.

ENSP Strategy for Tobacco Control: The objectives are to ensure the effective intervention and contribution of tobacco control advocates to EU/national policies, strategies and measures, to support and contribute to the development of the Community's strategy on tobacco control, as well as mapping, assessing and evaluating measures and actions on:

- prevention of sales to children and young persons,
- pricing and taxation,
- prohibiting advertising,
- second-hand smoke.

At ENSP's annual Network Meeting from 20 to 22 November 2006 four workshops were held (for more information see Network meeting). The report is currently being drafted.

Tobacco Control Research Strategy: The objectives of the research strategy are to contribute to the fulfilment of the gap at EU level for greater research co-ordination and capacity; to produce co-ordinated and comprehensive research options that will fully contribute to the evidence base of tobacco control policies and test interventions; to create a compilation table on research options and interventions at regional, national and EU levels in full collaboration with the regional network for tobacco control, stakeholders at national level and GLOBALink. This work could serve as the basis for a pilot research database in the future.

A Research Strategy Seminar: State-of-the-art was organised during the ENSP Network Meeting to assess EU research capacity, co-ordination and possible funding and to develop a co-ordinated EU tobacco research strategy (for more information see Network Meeting). A document entitled *EU Tobacco Research Strategy* is currently being prepared and will integrate and direct the research portfolio to ensure that policy-makers and programme developers are on track to produce what is needed in the field of tobacco control research.

Research into pictorial warnings on tobacco products in Europe: The use of pictorial images on tobacco products in Europe has been delayed. Belgium was the first Member State to decide to introduce pictorial warnings on the basis of a Royal Decree published in November 2005. By 31 May 2007, all cigarette packets sold in Belgium will have to carry pictorial warnings, as indicated in Directive 2001/37/EC. Belgian legislation requires the rotation of sets of 14 warnings on an annual basis, thereby ensuring the use of all 42 Commission-selected images over a three-year period.

Unfortunately, this has delayed the work package. It was expected that Belgium, UK and Ireland would have been quicker to implement the use of the pictorial warnings. The way forward on this work package is currently under discussion with the European Commission.

Supporting and encouraging legislation: The objectives of this work package are to ensure a better understanding of the effects of international/EU/national and regional policies and actions on health and to support and encourage the legal and other instruments in the field of tobacco control. Outlined priorities by all members in previous network meetings (Cracow/Limassol) included:

- the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;
- Article 11 of Directive 2001/37/EC;
- support for the tobacco advertising directive;
- support and promoting a ban on smoking in workplaces;
- input to the 'Green Paper on Smoke-free Environments 2006'.

Evidence-based briefing papers have been produced in co-ordination with experts, members and other organisations working in tobacco control. Aims are: to promote awareness and support for the implementation of the Tobacco Products Directive and the Tobacco Advertising Directive; to advocate policies banning smoking in public places – in particular at workplaces – at national level; to create an enlarged network of trade unions for smoke-free workplaces and a co-ordinated consultation to the 'Green Paper'. With regard to smoke-free workplaces, ENSP aims to promote and encourage legislation and implementation of existing legislation. During the action period we will adopt the following strategy as developed by the ENSP Board.

Smoke-free Workplaces in Europe before 2008: The advantage of being smoke-free is not only for health; smoke-free policies also have other advantages, i.e.:

- marketing (clean enterprises);
- workforce management (increase performance/size of workforces);
- safety reasons (fire prevention, traffic accidents);
- prevention of pollution (ETS is a major source of indoor pollution);
- economic reasons – smoke-free workplaces are more economical.

... **World No Tobacco Day 2006 – Tobacco: Deadly in any form or disguise**

In 2006 the motto for WHO's World No Tobacco Day was *Tobacco: Deadly in any form or disguise*.

The WHO rationale for World No Tobacco Day 2006 was as follows:

Tobacco addiction is a global epidemic that is increasingly ravaging countries and regions that can least afford its toll of disability, disease, lost productivity and death. The tobacco industry continues to put profits before life; its own expansion before the health of future generations; its own economic gain ahead of the sustainable development of struggling countries. Now, as nations have begun to fight back with a global strategy, and some countries begun to turn the course of the epidemic, tobacco companies continue to launch new weapons in the form of products disguised to appear less harmful and more attractive.

The core strategy of the tobacco industry is not new. It is the new variant of the "light", "mild" and "low tar" cigarette campaigns that were so effective in keeping customers, gaining new ones, and undermining tobacco control in the 20th century.

Nowadays, tobacco companies continue reassuring health-concerned smokers by offering with their new products the illusion of safety. They continue to take their old and new customers to more insidious levels of deception by promoting and selling new products disguised under healthier names, fruity flavours or more attractive-looking packaging. In the meantime they continue their search for reduced-harm products... however, none have been thoroughly evaluated in human studies, so there is no reliable information on what is the toxicant exposure or health impact.

Honest accurate information on tobacco product ingredients, toxicant deliveries, and health effects is scarce for many of these products.

Fortunately, tobacco control professionals have learnt valuable lessons about the tobacco industry approaches from the experiences and successes, as well as failures of 20th century tobacco control efforts. Global public health also has the strength of the combined forces of the United Nations and its Member States through the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, a powerful tool to combat tobacco and the challenging approaches of its industry.

The purpose of World No Tobacco Day 2006 is to raise awareness about the existence of a great variety of deadly tobacco products in order to help people get accurate information, remove the disguise and unveil the truth behind tobacco products – traditional, new, and future.

It is crucial to empower people and organizations with knowledge about the different tobacco products and their many forms and disguise in order to implement more effectively control tobacco and improve global health.

World No Tobacco Day 2006 has the following objectives:

- raise awareness about all forms of tobacco: DEADLY IN ANY FORM. Cigarettes, pipes, bidies, kreteks, clove cigarettes, snus, snuff, smokeless, cigars... they are all deadly;
- raise awareness about all types and names and flavours; DEADLY IN ANY DISGUISE. Mild, light, low-tar, full-flavour, fruit-flavoured, chocolate-flavoured, natural, additive-free, organic cigarettes, PREPS (Potentially Reduced-Exposure Products), harm-reduced... they are all deadly;
- raise awareness about the need for strict regulation and encourage its implementation.

All of these products and practices are deadly and addictive and thus the absence of truthful information deprives even well-intended people of the ability to make healthy choices. Whether the disguise is perpetuated by multinational corporations or by well-intended, but uninformed

shops, families, and individuals, the end product can be the same: use of products that carry unnecessary risks of disease, debilitation and death. The truth about tobacco can empower people to improve their own health, as well as the health of their families, friends, and others in their community.

ENSP supported its members in their own national initiatives. In Austria there was a citizens' initiative in support of a smoking ban; in Belgium a press conference took place at the European Parliament on Smoking Causes Blindness (organised by AMD Alliance); in the Czech Republic the Czech Medical Association organised a press conference; in Germany a press event took place also highlighting the promotion of a smoke-free World Cup 2006; in Sweden members of the Swedish Network for Tobacco Prevention created a poster in Swedish and issued a national media release and promoted the event on www.tobaksfakta.org.

... 7th Framework Programme

At the ENSP General Assembly on 21 April 2006 a presentation was delivered by Viviane Willis, of the Scientific Guidance and Governance Unit, on the 7th Framework Programme (FP7), modalities of implementation and opening doors to civil society participation. If adopted, FP7 is due to commence in 2007 for a period of seven years (i.e. until 2013). The EC has proposed four specific programmes: co-operation, ideas, people and capacities. A Council decision is needed for the specific programmes. The 7th Framework Programme was adopted by the end of 2006, immediately after the specific programmes. The specific programme for co-operation includes health and the specific programme for capacities includes science in society (governance of the science and society relationship). The EC is compiling a draft programme for a formal proposal for a work plan. This was submitted to an Advisory Group and then a Programme Committee in the Member States, which submits a formal opinion. Civil society organisations (CSOs) could intervene when the EC is collecting inputs. EU Research has worked with public authorities, researchers and industry and is starting to work together with CSOs. As far as the technology platforms are concerned, there is a wide stakeholder base; there is mobilisation of public and private funding; and the first objective of the technology platform is to discuss and implement a strategic research agenda. To implement the work programmes there are calls for proposals on defined scientific and technological priorities. Different types of funding schemes exist within DG Research: for collaborative research, for co-ordination and support actions, for research for the benefit of specific groups (SMEs and CSOs). The purpose for CSOs is to develop scientific knowledge related to their own activities. CSO participants would own the research results and RTD performers' costs are to be (fully) covered. The calls for proposals for CSOs under DG Research have to go through the following procedure: application, evaluation (by external evaluators from the research community with the main criterion being excellence, plus impact and implementation), selection, negotiation and grant agreement.

... **Television Without Frontiers**

In June 2006 ENSP worked together with the wider public health community in the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) to produce a position paper expressing public health concerns about the revision of the Television Without Frontiers Directive. ENSP was particularly concerned with the advertising of cigarettes and other tobacco products. The revision of the advertising framework impacts directly on public health issues such as food, tobacco, alcohol, and medicinal products. So too does the ability of the commercial sector to co-regulate or self-regulate. Despite claims from the industry that self-regulation on advertising is effective, many citizens have concerns it is often not sufficient to restrain unacceptable practices. Self-regulation is most commonly adopted by industries under threat of government regulation. This is particularly the case with regard to a commercial sector that involves products which can be harmful to health, such as tobacco, processed food and alcohol.

The EPHA Secretariat established an ad hoc working group with other EPHA members in order to co-ordinate activities. The working group drafted and endorsed a common position that was sent to Members of the European Parliament and to Permanent Representatives.

The health community's concerns relating to tobacco were expressed in the following position, quoted in the EPHA Position Paper on the Revision of the Television Without Frontiers Directive:

Directive 2003/33/EC on Tobacco Advertising and Sponsorship prohibits advertising of cigarettes and other tobacco products in the press and other printed publications, in radio and in information society services. It also bans tobacco industry sponsorship of radio programmes and of cross-border events. EPHA urges that these bans are extended to non-linear services, as the only way of providing more effective protection of citizens' health. Non-linear commercial communications calls for the same protection of public health as linear.

EPHA (including ENSP as a member of EPHA) welcomed the proposed insertion of a new Article 3h concerning product placement and sponsorship, in which the placement of certain products such as tobacco or prescription drugs are prohibited.

EPHA called for clarification of the Directive's scope, in particular with regard to audiovisual commercial communication including product placement and surreptitious advertising. Ambiguity on the scope of the Directive has the potential to pose serious threats to the safeguarding of the public health of Europeans. For example, concerns were raised about what is the scope of the regulatory framework in non-linear services and how does this affect the current advertising ban for cigarettes and other tobacco products? EPHA urged that cigarette and tobacco bans are upheld in the proposed Directive and extended to non-linear services as well, as the only way of providing more effective protection

In October 2006 ENSP collaborated with the Smoke-free Partnership to draft the following proposals to the Television Without Frontiers Directive:

Audiovisual media services and European works (as defined in Article 6) must not be sponsored by undertakings whose principal activity is the manufacture or sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products or agents acting on their behalf. Further, audiovisual media services and European works (as defined in Article 6) must not contain placement of tobacco products or cigarettes or product placement from undertakings whose principal activity is the manufacture or sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products or agents acting on their behalf. Concerning European works (as defined in Article 6), a certificate stating that the provisions of this article have been complied with shall be posted at the end of each work.

The Television without Frontiers Directive provides a legal definition of European works in Article 6. This definition ensures that European works are only audiovisual productions which are:

- a. works originating from Member States;
- b. works originating from European third States party to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television of the Council of Europe (paragraph 2);
- c. works originating from other European third countries and co-produced with a producer established in a Member State (paragraph 3);
- d. works co-produced between producers established in third countries and in Member States in the framework of a bilateral co-production treaty between those States (paragraph 4).

... Consultation EC: Smoke-free environments

On 30 May 2006, DG SANCO launched an informal consultation with EU Member States' authorities, environment and health stakeholders as well as the industry in the run-up to the adoption of a Commission Green Paper on Smoke-Free Environments.

This document, to which ENSP had been contributing since 2005:

1. describes the issue at stake and why it should be addressed;
2. describes the regulatory environment, at national, EU and international levels;
3. presents various policy options and discusses their likely impacts;
4. presents and analyses the different tools that could be used.

Questions on which the Commission invites contributions:

1. Is the description of the problem and its consequences adequate? If not, what would be a more satisfactory description?
2. Are policy options adequately identified and analysed? Are there any other options and/or impacts that should be taken into account?
3. Are the available tools adequately identified and analysed? Are there any other EU actions that should be considered?
4. Is there any supplementary scientific data which should be taken into account?

The answers to the questionnaire and the comments were to be returned to the European Commission by 14 June 2006.

In consultation with EPHA, and with the close collaboration of the ENSP Board members, ENSP compiled its contribution, which was submitted on 14 June 2006.

This informal consultation was meant to prepare the official Green Paper, to be published in early 2007.

... **Involvement developing synergies with other public health organisations**

EPHA PCM: In the course of 2006 ENSP attended the EPHA Policy Co-ordination Meetings on: 25 January 2006, 8 March 2006, 3 May 2006, 7 June 2006 (Annual General Assembly), 12 July 2006, 13 September 2006, 18 October 2006. Policy Co-ordination Meetings plan to bring members up to date with EPHA's activities and to provide a forum for members to have an exchange on issues affecting them.

The main issues dealt with during the Policy Co-ordination Meetings in 2006 were as follows, inter alia: Health and Consumer Programme, Green Paper on diet and physical activity, revision of Television without Frontiers Directive, Health Services Directive, 7th Framework Programme for Research, Green Paper on mental health, Public Health Programme 2007-2013, Green Paper on role of civil society in drug policies, WHO consultation on alcohol, information to patients.

HEAL (formerly EPHA Environment Network): In 2006 ENSP collaborated with HEAL on the EU air quality thematic strategy and air quality health limit values in relation to the Ambient Air Quality Directives. In particular, ENSP supported HEAL's request dated 19 September 2006 to lobby MEPs prior to the plenary vote on air quality and ambient air quality legislation to be taken on 26 September 2006. Specifically, the health community called for no weakening of existing standards and the EU *acquis communautaire*, as without a daily limit value and limited number of exceedences, those suffering from respiratory disease, COPD and asthma will not be sufficiently protected.

... ENSP Network Meeting

The ENSP Network Meeting and General Assembly took place in Sofia, Bulgaria from 20 to 22 November 2006. Bulgaria was chosen in order to boost the participation and activity in the new Member States. More than 80 stakeholders were present and actively participated in the workshops and meetings. All national coalitions made inputs to the workshop: (a) an overview of the state-of-the-art in each country had been prepared on the basis of a questionnaire and in collaboration with national governments for the four different themes; (b) contribute to the mapping assessing and evaluation of the measures and actions at national level; (c) provide a set of evidence and recommendations in the four areas that will serve as the basis for the document *ENSP Strategy for Tobacco Control*. The 2006 Network Meeting also incorporated a research strategy seminar.

Given the fact that a strong science base for tobacco control policy is essential to improve societal understanding of the effects of tobacco on health and to best direct resources toward its control, the Network Meeting commenced with a one-day Tobacco Control Research Strategy Seminar, which was designed to contribute fully to the fulfilment of the gap at EU level for greater research co-ordination and capacity. The meeting comprised various NGO representatives, ENSP as well as EC experts, government investigators, at both national and regional levels. The aim of the research seminar was to produce co-ordinated and comprehensive EU research options that will fully contribute to the evidence base of tobacco control policies. It assessed EU capacity, co-ordination and possible funding and contributed to developing a co-ordinated EU tobacco research strategy.

The results obtained during the research seminar are to be used as a basis to co-ordinate research on European level and to draw up recommendations.

The sessions were divided into:

- state-of-the-art;
- brainstorming;
- developing priorities and recommendations.

The main purpose of this research strategy was to ensure that applied research will help develop policies, programmes and legislation/regulations that, in turn, will help Europe achieve its tobacco control objectives. To this end, the ENSP is working with national, regional, NGO and academia tobacco control research experts across Europe to help develop and report on a renewed tobacco control strategy.

Professor Luke Clancy, who acted as Chair of the meeting, presented the state-of-the-art in Europe. This was followed by presentations on tobacco research in Finland by Antero Heloma, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health; Ivan Berlin, Groupe Hospitalier Universitaire Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris; Hein de Vries, Maastricht University, Netherlands; George Kotarov, National Centre of Public Health Protection, Sofia, Bulgaria; Sally Haw, NHS Health Scotland; Terje Peetso, European Commission, DG SANCO C6; Carolyn Dresler, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC); COST Office, Brussels, Belgium. There were also presentations of experiences of co-ordinators of funded projects, including: ETS project, Spain by Manuel Nebot; European Network of Smoke-free Hospitals project, France by Bertrand Dautzenberg; Research Institute for a Tobacco-Free Society, Ireland by Luke Clancy; ESFA Project by Hein de Vries, Netherlands; ESTA Project, Germany by Ulrich John.

A questionnaire had been sent out to members in order to obtain an overview during the summer of 2006. The two main questions were: (1) What research is needed to improve Tobacco Control in the EU? (2) How can the EU and the funding schemes at EU level contribute? Twenty-four respondents reported that there was no national strategy on tobacco control. Very few countries (namely Ireland, Italy, Norway and Britain) reported on having a tobacco research advisory committee. Eighteen respondents reported on the existence of a Strategy Director/Co-ordinator (be they government, NGO, academic or a mixture of all these categories).

It transpired that most research is being undertaken in the field of epidemiology. Research projects in the areas of cessation and prevention are encouraging, although the number of clinical trials is very limited. Some research is being done in the areas of product regulation, legislation and economics. However, the fields of basic science and toxicology are sadly lacking. More research on behavioural change is needed, especially in the areas of media, social marketing, behavioural sciences and education.

The funding of research is mostly via grant applications or responding to calls for research. Innovative approaches to facilitating research (including building and using networks of researchers and seeking funding from a broad range of stakeholders) are needed. One avenue that could be explored is finding partners with private funding sources. There is a lack of both funding for research and qualified human resources.

The main priorities for the future are as follows: (1) lobbying is needed to raise the profile and awareness of the importance of tobacco control; (2) establishing a tobacco control advisory or co-ordinating committee to prioritise research and connect potential collaborators is essential; (3) research capacity needs to be increased via training programmes; (4) funding from private sources must be sought and EU funding needs to be increased.

A European-wide tobacco control strategy requires a research strategy that must be evidence-based and highlights the need for research and development. In order to promote interest in tobacco control research we need to create an inventory of current tobacco-related research EU institutions, as well as identify key people and institutions. The research approach needs to be both transdisciplinary and transnational. Research needs are both human and financial. As far as Framework Programme 7 is concerned, there is an emphasis on transnational research, as well as a reinforcement of health policy-driven research and (the third pillar) enhancing health promotion and disease prevention. The types of research needed include: health effects, exposure assessment, prevention and intervention. What is needed now is to identify the present capacity, identify the available talent, bring these together and formulate a deliverable strategy.

A document entitled *EU Tobacco Research Strategy* is currently being prepared and will integrate and direct the research portfolio to ensure that policy-makers and programme developers are on track to produce what is needed in the field of tobacco control research.

Parallel Workshops were staged on day 2 (21 November 2006). The subjects of these workshops were:

1. Preventing Sales to Minors (Workshop leader and rapporteur: Marc Willemsen, Netherlands)
2. Second-hand Smoke (Workshop leaders: Friedrich Wiebel and Giovanni Invernizzi, Rapporteur: Jakobina Arnadottir, Iceland)
3. Pricing and Taxation (Workshop leader: Luk Joossens, Rapporteur: Joergen Falk, Denmark)
4. Advertising Ban (Workshop leader and rapporteur: Sally Haw in collaboration with Gerard Hastings, Scotland)

On day 3 (22 November 2006) the rapporteurs reported back from the workgroups. The key messages were as follows:

Preventing Sales to Minors: It was found that virtually all countries do have minimum age restrictions and virtually all countries do impose penalties or fines for failure to observe such restrictions. Likewise, most countries have regulations governing the minimum number of cigarettes per pack and most countries have restricted access to vending machines. Three broad conclusions came out of the workshop: age limitations have a role to play in a comprehensive tobacco control package (although legislation is not enough, enforcement is vital); a combination of enforcement of the age limit and restriction of points of sale is crucial; and a licensing system to sell tobacco is also a key requirement.

Second-hand Smoke: The workshop on second-hand smoke produced three major conclusions: (1) European countries are at very different stages in their legislation on smoke-free places; (2) a tool kit for measurement is needed (i.e. survey of general public, monitoring of health effects, air quality, economic factors, media coverage), which can be utilised for different purposes (such as advocacy, implementation and evaluation) and (3) it would be helpful to have a competence centre at European level (i.e. whose aim would be to define how to measure specifically air quality) – its role can be to offer help on deciding which measures are necessary and good for which purpose. The workshop produced some suggestions on next steps: in view of the fact that countries are at very different stages in their smoke-free legislation, some are able and willing to offer advice on best practices, while others still need information and support for advocacy, implementation or evaluation. Also it might prove helpful to create a clustering of countries to see who is at what stage of development and who can offer what resource to others.

Pricing and Taxation: Studies demonstrate that increasing prices and taxes is the most effective way to reduce tobacco consumption. As the taxation system is a highly complex matter, one suggestion was to obtain a high minimum standard tax level in order to counteract discount brands of both cigarettes and rolling tobacco. The specific recommendation was € 120 in taxes per 1000 cigarettes and € 80 in taxes per 1 kg of rolling tobacco.

Advertising Ban: The workshop identified those countries that had completely implemented and enforced advertising bans, based on both the EU directive and national laws. It transpired that Internet sales were one area that absolutely requires regulation. The workshop concluded that both direct and indirect marketing must be included in the components of a comprehensive advertising ban.

The report is currently being drafted.

3 Financial Report

... Annual Accounts

E.N.S.P. a.i.sbl.
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MANAGEMENT REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

Dear Members,

As prescribed in the statutes of the International Association, it is our honour to lay before you the annual report for the year ended on December 31, 2006.

Please find hereafter a synthesis of the result of the last four social years.

	<u>RESULTS</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>RESULTS</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>RESULTS</u> <u>2004</u>
	€	€	€
<u>A. OPERATING INCOMES</u>			
Membership fee	63.893,00	57.066,00	52.875,00
E.C. subsidies Framework Project 99 (99-2000) <i>(EC Finalisation)</i>	-	-	24.450,02
E.C. subsidies FWP 2000 (2000-01) <i>(Final report)</i>	-	-	16.172,97
E.C. subsidies FWP 2000 (2000-01) <i>(EC Audit -> Possible Rbt to EC / Non Rbt from Coor)</i>	-	-	-9.495,75
E.C. subsidies FWP 2001 (2001-02) <i>(Final report)</i>	-	-	27.704,58
E.C. subsidies FWP 2001 (2001-02) <i>(EC Audit -> Possible Rbt to EC)</i>	-	-	-4.000,00
E.C. subsidies FWP 2002 (2002-03) <i>(Final report)</i>	-	-	6.000,00
E.C. subsidies FWP 2002 (2002-03) <i>(EC Audit -> Possible Rbt to EC)</i>	-	-	-6.000,00
E.C. subsidies FWP 2003 (2003307) <i>(01/12/03-28/02/05)</i>	-	117.018,22	386.459,25
E.C. subsidies FWP 2003 (2003307) <i>(EC Audit -> Possible Rbt to EC)</i>	-	-	-5.000,00
E.C. subsidies FWP 2004 (2004323) <i>(01/03/05-31/05/06)</i>	310.011,29	435.989,23	1.125,00
E.C. subsidies Grant 2005326 <i>(01/06/06-31/05/07)</i>	137.956,41	-	-
E.C. subsidies ASPECT (tender SI2.371544)	-	-	34.234,26
E.C. HELP campaign	131.893,00	201.485,39	-
Financial participation EC	-	-	2.052,16
Financial participation Regions	680,50	-	-
Extraordinary contributions	964,68	1.991,63	3.532,89
Recovering personnel cost provisions	881,81	1.921,24	942,85
Recovering expenses and miscellaneous operating incomes	-	-	2.326,46
Financial Income	8.285,61	11.218,02	10.542,24
<u>TOTAL INCOMES</u>	654.566,30	826.689,73	543.921,93
<u>B. CHARGES</u>			
Services and other goods	374.405,22	471.995,87	284.730,53
Remuneration	257.009,72	335.899,96	239.714,79
Depreciation	49,01	667,25	1.179,44
Other Operating Charges	-	160,00	170,39
Financial Charges	9.335,31	11.585,20	10.692,31
<u>TOTAL CHARGES</u>	640.799,26	820.308,28	536.487,45
Result before taxes A-B=C	13.767,04	6.381,45	7.434,48
<u>D. TAXES (précompte mobilier)</u>	-	-1.682,50	-1.516,75
<u>Result for the period</u>			
<u>To be brought forward C-D=E</u>	13.767,04	4.698,95	5.917,73

E.N.S.P. a.i.sbl.

Management report (next)

E.N.S.P. a.i.sbl.
 Chaussée de l'Écluse 144
 1050 BRUSSELS

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2006
BALANCE SHEET (in Euro)

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>LIABILITIES</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Fixed Assets	<u>505.31</u>	<u>554.32</u>	1.221,57	Own Capital	<u>53.266.31</u>	<u>39.499.27</u>	34.800,32
				out of reported profit/loss	<u>53.266.31</u>	<u>39.499.27</u>	34.800,32
Floating Assets	<u>998.503,46</u>	<u>967.292,68</u>	1.065.254,23	Debts	<u>945.742,46</u>	<u>928.347,73</u>	1.031.675,48
Amounts due (< 1 year)	<u>124.079,03</u>	<u>155.997,82</u>	94.843,78	Debts (> 1 year)	<u>5.921,75</u>	<u>17.421,75</u>	11.921,75
Current investments				Debts (< 1 year)	<u>428.148,79</u>	<u>409.578,77</u>	237.317,35
Term accounts	<u>535.909,56</u>	<u>443.422,40</u>	917.324,28	Regularization (* ²)	<u>511.671,92</u>	<u>501.347,21</u>	782.436,38
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>14.737,91</u>	<u>37.202,69</u>	17.203,65				
Regularization (* ¹)	<u>323.776,96</u>	<u>330.669,77</u>	35.882,51				
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>999.008,77</u>	<u>967.847,00</u>	1.066.475,80	TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>999.008,77</u>	<u>967.847,00</u>	1.066.475,80

(*¹) Expenses incurred in 2006 but corresponding funds to be received in 2007.

(*²) Activities carried out in 2006 but invoices to be received in 2007.



M.D.S.

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EUROPEAN NETWORK for SMOKING PREVENTION A.I.S.B.L.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS ON THE ANNUAL

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31 , 2006

In accordance with the mission you assigned us, we report on our audit of the annual accounts for the year ended 2006.

We have examined the annual accounts which comprise the balance sheet , the income statement and the notes.

Our examination has been made in accordance with the auditing standards and included a general review of the A.I.S.B.L.'s administrative and accounting procedures and system of internal control, which we have considered adequate for the purpose of our audit.

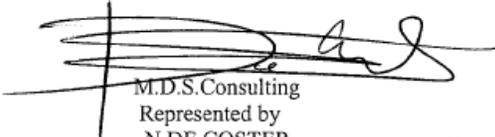
We have received all information and explanations that, in our opinion, were necessary for the purposes of our examination.

The accounting records are maintained and the annual accounts are prepared in conformity with the legal and statutory requirements applicable in Belgium.

We are not aware of any actions or decisions taken by the association that do not comply with the statutes or the applicable regulations.

In our opinion the annual accounts for the year ended December 31, 2006 have been prepared in accordance with the relevant legal requirements and present fairly, on that basis, the financial position of the company as per December 31, 2006 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Brussels, April 17, 2007



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... Explanatory Notes

Preliminary note

The year 2006 accounts presented here above have been established in accordance with the legal and statutory obligations in Belgium for non-profit associations. The information given within this report goes beyond the minimum legal requirements in order to allow a clear picture of the financial management of ENSP.

... Operating Incomes and Charges

Incomes

Membership fee

In 2006, €84,000 were invoiced to 28 national coalitions. The difference of membership fees received between 2005 and 2006 consists in some credit notes and some reserve for expected non-payments, and the transfer of the necessary percentage to cover the first 5 months of year 2007.

Invoices	84,000
Cumulated provisions for expected non-payments	30,909
Credit notes for past and present unpaid membership fees	-41,162
Cover of the 1 st quarter of 2006 by the 2005-2006 fees and reserves	18,625
Transfer to the 1st 5 months of year 2007	- 28,479
Total	€ 63,893

E.C. subsidies Framework project 2004323 (01/03/2005-31/05/2006)

€ 310,011.29 is the balance between the total EC contribution requested in our final report and the two advance payments received from the EC for the grant application 2004323 (ENSP share).

E.C. subsidies Grant agreement 2005326 (01/06/2006-31/05/2007)

1st instalment received from EC (€ 137,956.41).

E.C. HELP campaign

Net amount used to cover ENSP expenses and work done in 2006 for the "HELP! For a life without tobacco" media campaign.

Financial participation Regions

Reimbursement of travel costs.

Extraordinary contributions

Contributions from individual members.

Recovering of personal costs provisions

Regularisation of provisions made.

Financial Income

Interest accrued by current placements.

Charges

Services and other goods

This title includes the ENSP core grant expenses (except remuneration), i.e. mainly office and conference rooms rental; reports experts fees, printing and dispatching; travel expenses (GA, BM,...), provisions for EC financial audits or other planned reimbursements.

Financial charges

Include the cost of the bank guarantees for framework project advance payments by EC.

Result for the period

The annual accounts show a positive result of € 13,767.04 which will be carried forward to 2007.

*Francis Gogna
Director*

... **Balance Sheet**

Assets

The fixed assets represent € 505.

The floating assets amount to € 998,503, resulting from:

- The amounts due (< 1 year), representing the unpaid coalition fees and one invoice in process of payment by the HELP! Campaign coordinator.
- The term accounts, made of part of the ENSP core grant advance payments received from the EC and of advance payments received from the EC and reimbursements received from coordinators; to be transferred to the EC and/or to the coordinators on approval of the corresponding financial reports by the EC.
- The cash at bank and in hand on 31 December.
- The regularisation: expenses incurred in 2006 but corresponding funds of which are to be received in 2007.

Liabilities

The reported result amounts to € 53,266.

The debts (> 1 year) represent provisions for possible reimbursement to EC of interest accrued.

The debts (< 1 year) represent suppliers' invoices to be paid, and provisions for any possible reimbursement to the EC in the framework of the ENSP core grant final reports, provisions for invoices to receive, and provisions for expected non-payments of coalition fees.

The regularisation (€ 511,671) represents the amounts to be paid to the project co-ordinators and to the EC on receipt of the final approval by the EC, and the transfer of membership fees to cover the 1st five months of 2007.

... **Conclusion**

I, as the Treasurer of ENSP, propose the approval by the General Assembly of the annual balance and result as fixed on 31.12.2006.

Tibor Szilagyi
Treasurer

... Contributions of the national coalitions on 31.12.2006

Coalitions	Period	Invoiced			Paid		Canceled by credit note			Remaining to be paid	Comments
		Number	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Number	Date	Amount		
1 Austria											
	2004/2005	2004/01	12/07/2004	3.000	1/02/2005	1.000	2006/01	31/12/2006	2.000	0	
	2005/2006	2005/03	17/08/2005	3.000	24/01/2006	2.000	2006/01	31/12/2006	1.000	0	
	2006/2007	2006/03	28/04/2006	3.000			2006/01	31/12/2006	1.000	2.000	Paid 09/01/2007
2 Belgium											
	2004/2005	2004/02	12/07/2004	3.000	18/07/2005	2.000	2004/04	31/12/2004	1.000	0	
	2005/2006	2005/04	31/08/2005	2.500	12/01/2006	2.500	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/01	28/02/2006	3.000	31/03/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
3 Bulgaria											
	2006/2007	2006/04	28/04/2006	3.000			2006/02	31/12/2006	2.000	1.000	Reminder sent 12/12/06
4 Cyprus											
	2004/2005	2004/22	12/07/2004	3.000	26/04/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/06	17/08/2005	3.000	In Kind	650	2006/03	31/12/2006	2.350	0	
	2006/2007	2006/06	28/04/2006	3.000	In Kind	1.000	2006/03	31/12/2006	2.000	0	
5 Czech Republic											
	2004/2005	2004/03	12/07/2004	3.000	In Kind	900	2006/04	31/12/2006	2.100	0	
	2005/2006	2005/07	17/08/2005	3.000	In Kind	1.000	2006/04	31/12/2006	2.000	0	
	2006/2007	2006/05	28/04/2006	3.000	In Kind	1.850	2006/04	31/12/2006	1.150	0	
6 Denmark											
	2004/2005	2004/04	12/07/2004	3.000	17/08/2004	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/08	17/08/2005	3.000	8/09/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/07	28/04/2006	3.000	23/05/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
7 Finland											
	2004/2005	2004/05	12/07/2004	3.000	6/08/2004	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/09	17/08/2005	3.000	31/08/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/09	28/04/2006	3.000	12/05/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
8 France											
	2004/2005	2004/06	12/07/2004	3.000	20/09/2004	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/10	17/08/2005	3.000	7/11/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/08	28/04/2006	3.000						3.000	Paid 29/03/07
9 Germany											
	2004/2005	2004/07	12/07/2004	3.000	21/04/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/11	17/08/2005	3.000	23/03/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/10	28/04/2006	3.000	4/07/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
10 Greece											
	2004/2005	2004/08	12/07/2004	3.000	In Kind	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/12	17/08/2005	3.000	In Kind	2.438	2006/05	31/12/2006	562	0	
	2006/2007	2006/11	28/04/2006	3.000						3.000	Paid 19/03/2007
11 Hungary											
	2006/2007	2006/12	28/04/2006	3.000	NA	0	2006/06	31/12/2006	3.000	0	
										0	
										0	
12 Iceland											
	2004/2005	2004/09	12/07/2004	3.000	1/03/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/13	17/08/2005	3.000	7/11/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/13	28/04/2006	3.000	17/05/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
13 Ireland											
	2004/2005	2004/10	12/07/2004	3.000	3/03/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/14	17/08/2005	3.000	10/01/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/14	28/04/2006	3.000	6/11/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
14 Italy											
	2004/2005	2004/11	12/07/2004	3.000	2/05/2005	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2005/2006	2005/15	17/08/2005	3.000	17/08/2006	3.000	NA	NA	NA	0	
	2006/2007	2006/15	28/04/2006	3.000						3.000	In process

... **Budget 2007**

Budget 01/01/2007 - 31/12/2007	Expenses	Income
	€	€
Membership fees	0	105.479
Staff (based on figures on 2006)	240.436	174.941
Fundraiser (consultant)	10.000	25.000
Insurances	3.500	0
Office rental	15.810	6.324
Electr, heat, office supplies,...	10.557	4.223
Experts 2006316 (3 WPs: women, workplace, FCTC)	48.000	48.000
Experts 2006316 (3 WPs tvls)	7.600	4.560
Experts HELP	170.000	170.000
Accountant + legal deposit	1.500	0
3 board meetings	12.930	7.758
GA April (Room + Tvl+Hotel 28 Partic)	15.000	15.000
Network meet Portugal Nov07 (28 + 5 srt + 8 speak)	76.098	49.602
Pictorial warnings (Work package 6 of 2005326)	90.000	90.000
Equipment (purchase and/or rental), meeting rooms,...	5.000	0
Varia (tvl, printings,...)	10.000	6.400
Publication (5000 directories 2007)	8.107	15.000
Publication (500 WPS)	6.292	12.000
Reserve	3.000	0
Total	733.830	734.286
Foreseen result end of year		457