



Press release

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EUPHA launches report on Healthy and Sustainable diets for European countries

Today, 20 May 2017 – European Obesity Day – EUPHA is proud to present its report on Healthy and Sustainable Diets for European Countries. This report – set up by a working group within the EUPHA section on Food and nutrition – calls for all European states to establish a statutory Sustainable Nutrition Task Force, that considers and includes the wider aspects of food.

Dr Christopher Birt, president of the EUPHA section on Food and nutrition states: 'It is time to combine efforts to improve the quality of diets and reduce the environmental impacts of the food industry. This is a challenge not only for the public health community, but also for the agricultural, food processing industry and consumers.'

The idea for this report started in October 2015 when the then president of EUPHA, Prof. Martin McKee, invited EUPHA to take up the challenge and produce a policy paper calling for a greater alignment of health and sustainability messages on diet and nutrition. *Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat*, EUPHA president, welcomes this policy report: 'The public health community calls for strong and transparent collaboration between interested stakeholders to address the challenges highlighted in this important report'.

EUPHA and its members have the potential to provide advocacy input with the aim of influencing the formulation of public health policies, in which sustainable diets are integrated. EUPHA will continue to advocate for a WHO Convention on Sustainable Healthy Nutrition and will assist its members in advocating at national level.

Dr Christopher Birt, president EUPHA (FN) (Christopher.Birt@liverpool.ac.uk)

Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, president EUPHA

Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, executive director EUPHA

Note to editors: The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations and institutes in Europe. EUPHA was founded in 1992. EUPHA now has 71 members from 41 countries: • 40 national associations of public health • 18 institutional members • 9 European NGOs • 4 individual members. EUPHA is an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organisation, bringing together around 17,000 public health experts for professional exchange and collaboration throughout Europe. We encourage a multidisciplinary approach to public health. Our vision is of improved health and reduced health inequalities for all Europeans. We seek to support our members to increase the impact of public health in

Europe, adding value to the efforts of regions and states, national and international organisations, and individual public health experts.