

EUPHA Food and Nutrition Section

Annual General Meeting of the Section

**Friday 11th November, 2016, from 12.55 to 13.55
in Room L8, European Public Health Conference, Vienna**

1. Welcome, and apologies for absence.

The President of the Food and Nutrition Section welcomed the attendants. In total 19 persons were attending the meeting, listed at the end of the minutes.

Apologies for absence: Judit Simon, univ-prof, MedUni Vienna, has sent her apologies by email to Chris Birt

Tatjana Buzeti had stated earlier that she is not able to attend, owing to the demands of her Minister.

2. Minutes of the last AGM, held in Milan on 16th October 2015.

Christopher Birt went through the basic content of the minutes. Those who had been present have been able to comment by email earlier. No further comment were made and the minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

3. Annual report of the Section.

TB

Tatjana Buzeti had written the annual report and it had been circulated by email. Chris Birt presented the report to the meeting.

Main topics of the annual report:

Sustainable Healthy Nutrition report and statement have been the biggest activity of the section this year. However, the report has still to be finished; currently there are still gaps to fill in. The current deadline is for end March. The statement has been submitted and presented to the Governing Council of EUPHA, but no comments have yet been received.

The Food and Nutrition Section represents EUPHA as a member of stakeholder committee in JPI HDHL. Several meetings have taken place this year, and Chris Birt has represented EUPHA.

The President reported that the programme of the current Conference contains both a preconference and a joint workshop (with WHO Europe) organised by our Section, and there are several other sessions relevant to our special interests.

The Annual Report was accepted.

4. Working Group on Sustainable Healthy Nutrition. CB

The work of Sustainable Healthy Nutrition working group was explained by Chris Birt. The work started last year when EUPHA President Martin McKee had asked the Section to produce a statement on sustainable healthy nutrition, based on a thorough literature search. His original suggestion that, using this document, EUPHA might suggest to “The Lancet” that it might stimulate the establishment of a Lancet Commission on sustainable healthy nutrition. Earlier this year such a Commission was set up; it is now our attention to present our report to this Commission (it is likely to be acceptable until the end of June 2017).

Two postgraduate students, Vittal Katikireddi and Rachel Loopstra, had assisted us considerably as our first workforce; they did the preliminary literature search. The working group also included: Chris Birt, Tatjana Buzeti, Carl Lachat, Alessandra Lafranconi, Enni Mertanen, Natalie Rangelov, Lise Justesen, and Sirpa Sarlio-Lähteenkorva. The work was done mostly in pairs. The group have had several skype meetings, a meeting in Copenhagen in March, and a two-day workshop in Slovenia in June.

5. Section workshops at the 2016 Conference. NR, CB

The preconference was a success! However, some acute issues arose: one presenter missed his plane and another simply failed to appear, but these problems were solved smoothly and an extra presentation took place, given by Lennert Veerman from The University of Queensland, Australia.

Co-Chairs Natalia Rangelov and Enni Mertanen got overwhelming thanks for chairing. The audience did not notice the problems experienced by the chairs!

The Section official workshop takes place on Saturday, jointly organised with the Regional Office of WHO for Europe.

6. The challenge of childhood obesity.

CG

EUPHA President Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat had asked Michelle Deguara to give a presentation to the Section on childhood obesity; she made this presentation on this serious health problem, which is especially severe in Malta, from where she comes.

7. Public health competences: nutrition.

CB

European public health competences have been defined by an ASPHER expert group, several years ago; these are now commended by WHO. There is now a European Council which oversees the development of public health capacity in Europe (with WHO involvement), using competences as a principal tool for this. Competences for specialist areas are now sought, and our Section was invited to nominate experts to work on competences for public health nutrition. Eight nominations have been sent to the Council. The new working group should begin by finding out about any previous work in this field.

8. Section programme for 2016/17.

All

The sustainable healthy nutrition report will be sent to the Lancet Commission.

Stockholm:

A further joint workshop with WHO may be proposed.

Preconference: some ideas were discussed; Enni, Emma and Lise continue to discuss these.

Florence Egal proposed the topic of a discussion involving both sustainable diet advocates and representatives of agricultural production. Also other ideas were proposed.

9. Election of officers and committee for 2016/17:

Lise Justesen took over the chairing of the meeting:

- **President;**

Chris Birt was elected again for an other year.

- **Vice-Presidents;**

2016 vice-presidents have been:

Enni Mertanen,
Natalie Rangelov, and
Tatjana Buzeti

For 2017 vice-presidents were nominated and elected:

Enni Mertanen
Natalie Rangelov

- **Secretary;**

Lise Justesen was elected as the secretary of section

Committee members were elected as follows:

Tatjana Buzeti
Giuseppe Grosso
Alessandra Lafranconi
Natalie Rangelov
Carl Lachat
Lise Justesen
Emma Patterson
Enni Mertanen
Lorna Benton

10. Any other competent business.

Florence: To make an inventory of different food related events and initiatives.
Chris reported that this is already provided by EPHA

Minutes written by Enni Mertanen

List of attendants

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