

EUPHA-IDC Section: Meeting of the Infectious Disease Control Section – Minutes

Setting

Date: 16th October 2020

Time: 11.00 – 12.00 CEST

ZOOM Meeting

Participants

Position	Representative
Section President	Michael Edelstein
Vice-President	Maria Ganczak
Vice-President	Ricardo Mexia
Core Group Member (past Vice-President)	Gunter Pffaf
Core Group Member	Alessandro Miglietta
Core Group Member	Elena Petelos
Participant	David Peres
Participant	Anna Cecilia Elias
Participant	Roberte Manigat
Participant	Michela Sabbatucci
Participant	Pierre Tiberghien
Participant	Henna Riemenschneider
Participant	Ute Zocher
Participant	Chiara Cadeddu
Participant	Sonia Regina La
Participant	Veta

Apologies

Position	Representative
Vice-President	Anna Odone
Past President	Aura Timen
Core Group Member	Caroline Rumble
Core Group Member	Melanie Maia
Core Group Member	Ihor Kuzin
Core Group Member	Eran Kopel
Core Group Member	Lara Tavoschi
Core Group Member	Melanie Raimundo Maia
Core Group Member	Caroline Rumble
Core Group Member	Leena Inamdar
Core Group Member	Alessandro Cassini

A. Welcome and Introductions

On behalf of the EUPHA ICD Section, Michael welcomed participants to the Annual Meeting of the Infectious Disease Control Section and thanked them for joining the meeting.

A brief summary of the IDC Section mission, goals (2018-2021) and structure were provided by the Section President. The section comprises of 1879 members from 117 countries.

B. 2020 Activities of the IDC Section

Michael described 2020 activities of the IDC Section:

- The section represents EUPHA on the Global R&D Hub, an initiative to tackle the threat of resistant pathogens designed to make the use of international resources even more effective
- The section contributed to the generation of the AMR Roadmap for Action, as members of the AMR Stakeholder Network
- The section participated in the advocacy activities to kick-start the Intergroup of MEPs fight AMR in the European Parliament with EUPHA

Another important achievement was an active involvement in releasing the “Statement by the EUPHA on COVID-19” (26th February 2020), as well as the “Statement by the EUPHA and EUPHA-IDC on What does a good COVID-19 programme look like?” (8th October 2020).

Michael described numerous opportunities when becoming a EUPHA member, including the potential to connect - through the dynamic, vibrant network - with other members in faraway regions and representing variety of professions and specialisations, as well as fields of expertise. Such network simply facilitates contacts.

ACTION – meeting participants who have not already registered as the section members - to join the EUPHA Infectious Disease Control Section

C. IDC Section activities at the 16th World Congress of Public Health

Michael emphasized the global aspect of the Congress and briefly summarized IDC Section activities at the 16th World Congress of Public Health. The section involvement was impressive. We organized/co-organized four sessions and one pre-conference workshop, as well as other conference sessions and debates. These are as follows:

1. Pre-conference Workshop: Contagion 2.0! A tabletop outbreak management simulation.
2. Workshop: How are digital solutions contributing to enhance immunization programmes and policies?
3. Workshop: Responding to COVID19 in Europe: a tale of five countries.
4. Workshop: Bringing evidence during Public Health Emergencies: addressing the challenge through HTA
5. Workshop: Women and prison: vulnerability and overlapping health needs of women in prison worldwide
6. World Leadership Dialogue: Towards a new vision of outbreak management and response.
7. Round table: AMR and Cancer: Cross-cutting priorities for an integrated public health and primary care approach

The section President/Vice-Presidents, the CG members, and other section members actively supported the Organising/Scientific Committee, as well as chaired/co-chaired numerous conference sessions. This information is also available at: <https://wcp2020.com/app/programme/programme.php?d=5>

All above mentioned activities were very well received; sessions, debates and workshops were nicely attended virtually. Michael emphasized that high visibility of our section during the WCPH would not be possible without intensive, continuous collaboration with other EUPHA sections. He is now waiting for the official Participants Evaluation Report.

D. Introduction of participants

The section President kindly asked the participants to the Annual Meeting of the IDC section to briefly introduce themselves. Michael emphasized the broad spectrum of countries (UK, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Poland, Greece, France) and medical professions represented by the meeting participants, such as physicians, academic researchers and residents in public health, epidemiology, infectious, parasitic and immune-mediated diseases, anthropology, transfusion medicine, and family medicine.

E. How to work together effectively to further support the work of the IDC Section

Coronavirus cases are soaring and all of the EU countries are reporting a rise in new infections in a feared fall surge, and are staring down the barrel of renewed restrictions. Michael asked vice-presidents, CG members and other participants of the meeting to contribute and provide input into IDC Section's activities in the tough upcoming months and hoped we will get a chance to collaborate in the nearest future.

ACTION – President/Vice Presidents, CG members and other IDC section members to contribute and provide input into IDC Section's activities in the upcoming months.

F. Additional comments

Maria Ganczak pointed at the IDC Section media activity during the pandemic. The President, vice-presidents, the past president/vice-president, as well as CG members, have given numerous broadcasts for the national media, such as TV (including BBC), radio, newspapers (including Financial Times, Le Monde and Newsweek) and various on-line information channels.

Gunter Pfaff commented on the need of young people involvement to increase investment in the field of epidemiology.

Ricardo Mexia informed about his suggestion made during the Scientific Committee Meeting in the morning (Oct 16th); this referred to prolong the online access to the content of the WCPH sessions until the end of 2020.

Members were thanked for their contributions.

The meeting was closed at 12.08 CEST.