



Memorandum of Understanding

for collaboration between

South-eastern Europe Health Network and South-East European Network on Workers' Health

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as “MoU”) establishes a framework for collaboration between the South-eastern Europe Health Network (hereinafter referred to as “SEEHN”) and the South-East European network on Workers’ Health (hereinafter referred to as SEENWH) to share knowledge and experience and to develop and implement joint activities.

1. Background

1.1 The mission of SEEHN, as an international organisation, is to coordinate and maintain regional cooperation in public health in order to further the reforms of the health systems in the member countries, and thus contribute to economic and social development. The goal of SEEHN is to improve the health of the people in the South-Eastern Europe region, providing and sustaining the ownership and leadership of the countries in the region in implementing concerted action in the priority areas for health defined by the ministers of health of the member countries. The SEEHN member countries are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Macedonia and Israel. Alongside, SEEHN has a number of partner countries and partner organizations (including the World Health Organization, the Council of Europe, the Council of Europe Development Bank, the Regional Cooperation Council, the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the EuroHealthNet , Center for Regional Research “Studiorum” and the International Organization for Migration.

SEEHN’s activities are focused on maintaining the concerted health development action of the Dubrovnik Pledge (2001), the Skopje Pledge (2005), and the Banja Luka Pledge (2011) according to the SEEHN Memorandum of Understanding (2008) and its other legal documents.

1.2 The Coordination of SEEHN is hosted by the SEEHN Secretariat, which is placed in, Skopje, Macedonia.

1.3 The South East European Network on Workers Health is a sub-regional network of WHO collaborating centres for occupational health, occupational health institutes and WHO national focal points in South East Europe (SEE) collaborating with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The participating countries include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and Turkey. The mission of SEENWH is to improve workers' health and well-being in SEE countries, contributing to better health for Europe. The Network aims at strengthening occupational health systems, policy and services and building human and institutional capacities in the SEE region through international cooperation.

The guiding principles of the SEE Network are provided by the WHO Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health 2008-2017, Parma Declaration of the European Ministers of Health and Environment 2010 and the new WHO European policy for health – Health 2020.

The SEE Network serves as a forum for exchanging and disseminating of information and knowledge; a platform for developing and sharing good models and good practice guidelines; a basis for developing programmes for training and education of professionals; and a framework for bilateral and multilateral projects enabling best possible use of resources available in the field of workers' health.

The activities of the SEENWH are strengthened by multisectoral approach in the field; through partnership and cooperation between key stakeholders from the health sector, labour, education, academia, NGOs, social partners, employers and workers; and with the contribution given by SEE Governments, in the implementation of specific actions and programmes for workers' health.

1.4 SEENWH is coordinated by elected coordinator and the Network is hosted by the Institute for Occupational Health of R. Macedonia-Skopje, WHO Collaborating Center for Occupational Health, Skopje, Macedonia.

1.5 This MoU details and describes the collaboration between SEEHN and SEENWH.

2. Areas of collaboration

Where possible, SEEHN and SEENWH will cooperate as well as encourage and facilitate exchanges by:

- a) Sharing information, lessons learned and best practices;
- b) Mutual participation in congresses, meetings, conferences and symposia organized by the parties;
- c) Cooperation between the networks, their various bodies and their technical experts;
- d) Cooperation on mutually selected subjects;
- e) Cooperation on joint development and/or implementation of projects and activities.

3. Resources

All collaboration activities will be limited to the availability of necessary human and financial resources.

4. Review of Collaboration

4.1 The collaboration will be reviewed by the parties in connection with meetings, annually or as appropriate.

4.2 This MoU will be evaluated every third year.

5. Events and activities

Information on events and activities that may be of common interest will be shared between the two parties.

6. Term of the MoU

6.1 The MoU enters into force upon signature by both parties for a period of three years from that date.

6.2 SEEHN or SEENWH may, at any given time terminate the collaboration established in this MoU. Should party wish to terminate the collaboration, a three months’ notice in writing shall be given.

6.3 SEEHN or SEENWH can, at any time, withdraw technical contribution to specific projects prior to appropriate notice.

7. The SEEHN emblem and name

The SEEHN emblem and name may not be used, unless there is prior written approval of the SEEHN Secretariat, on a case-by-case basis.

8. The SEENWH emblem and name

The SEENWH emblem and name may not be used, unless there is prior upon the written agreement of the SEENWH’s members, on a case-by-case basis.

9. Disputes

Any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of the MoU shall, unless amicably settled, be subject to conciliation. In the event of failure of the latter, the dispute shall be settled by arbitration. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the modalities to be agreed upon by the parties or, in the absence of agreement, in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. The parties shall accept the arbitral awards as final.

Done in _____ in two originals in the English language.

For SEEHN:

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President of SEEHN

For SEENWH:

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Coordinator of SEENWH