ECDC Public Health Functions Unit

National Focal Points for Public Health Training (NFPT) meetings

5 March 2024

Minutes

# Draft minutes

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| **Welcome and objectives of the session**  *Adam Roth, Head of Section Public Health Training*  Adam presented the agenda and asked for AOB.  Paolo d’Ancona (NFPT, Italy) and Margret te Wierik (NFPT, Netherlands) asked for clarification on the recent training on evidence based decision making considering   * it was sent to National Coordinators with NFPTs in cc * the initial communication indicated the option for 3-4 participants per country to attend, while at the end for some countries none could take part   This topic was tackled as part of AOB. | **13:00 – 13:05** |
| **Ways of working with the network in 2024**  *Jeanine Pommier, Group Leader Continuous Professional Development*  **Reminder on the role of NFPTs as stated in the Terms or Reference**  *Urszula Bogatynska, Training Support Specialist*  Presentation (slides 6-9)  More information in the slides 10-22 (not presented during the meeting)  **Presentation of survey results**  *Urszula Bogatynska, Training Support Specialist*  Presentation (slides 23-27)  **Update from TSF discussion on 15 February about ways of working**  *Adam Roth, Head of Section Public Health Training*   * NFPT and TSF once a year face-to-face around ESCAIDE and continue with TSF Meetings Q1 to Q3 online. * Keep smaller/less topics, relevant to only the fellowship and allow more time for discussion and time to provide input.   **Discussion linked with survey results (four break-out rooms)**  **Reporting back from group discussions**  **Group 3 and Group 4, Taking into consideration the results of the survey, propose**:   * Frequency and format of NFPT meetings through the year * Frequency and format of collaboration with TSF * Ways of working with the public health training coordination committee   Group 3, Kristina Mittag Leffler, ECDC   * 2-4 NFPT meetings per year including one face to face with TSF * Additional joint NFPT/TSF meetings based on needs – flexible approach   Moa Rehn (NFPT, Sweden) – Fellowship topics can be discussed together with TSF  Margret te Wierik (NFPT, Netherlands) – separate roles are important give the difference in roles  Paolo de Nogueira (NFPT, Portugal) – raised the challenge in collaboration with two sites where the level of collaboration differs  Group 4, Aline Eklof, ECDC   * There should be joint meetings of NFPT and TSF * Face to face meeting – at least once a year * If we have 3 separate meetings for NFPT and 3 separate for TSF this results in many meetings for those with double roles * Presentations and documents could be shared in advance * Limited communication from the Coordination Committee. It would be useful to receive more information from their side and/or minutes from their meetings   Agnes Lepoutre (NFPT, France) – during face to face meetings there should be time allocated for each group separately  Hana Orlikova (NFPT, Czech Republic) – reminded that there is Annex 9 of the [Coordinating-Competent-Bodies-Structures-Terms-of-reference-and-interactions\_2023.pdf](https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Coordinating-Competent-Bodies-Structures-Terms-of-reference-and-interactions_2023.pdf) which describes the role of the Committee.  **Group 1 and Group 2, Taking into consideration the results of the survey, propose a list of topics to be discussed in 2024**  Group 1, Patricia Garvey (NFPT, Ireland)   * Professional exchanges, senior exchanges, task force * Competencies and methods of delivery * Looking into competencies in all areas, enabling to go beyond the national level (regional) * NFPT can be involved in design of trainings and its delivery * New areas should be addressed in terms of trainings like: modelling, artificial intelligence   Group 2, Adam Roth, ECDC   * senior exchanges and mid-career trainings – requires training, and should be discussed * capacity assessment methodology – linked to EUHTF * mapping training needs   Challenges:   * Cascading of training   + Frontline FETP – hearing this from many countries   + EPIET Associated programme * National level focus on ECDC training – how to get this out to regional level. Sharing of experiences   + Often handpicked. People we happen to know about. Not a fair approach. Other solutions? * New mandate   + New demands on national institutes – do we have the trainings that correspond to the demands/expectations   Not for NFPT discussions   * Specific topics: dengue, arboviral * Specific topics for seminars – not for NFPT * Competencies – more for subject expertise | **13:05 – 14:30** |
| **Break** | **14:30 – 14:45** |
| **Information item on Fellowship topics and Q&A**  **EU Health Task Force**  *Emma Löf, on behalf of the ECDC Coordination Team of the EU Health Task Force*  Presentation (slides 36-50)  Discussion   * Emma explained that Fellows deployed will be representing ECDC. * Ettore Amato (NFPT, Norway) asked about the criteria to create a request.   + Answer: These are available on slide 40. The scope can be both in the preparedness and response area * Margret te Wierik (NFPT, Netherlands) – if the country is in need of specific expertise, the deployment can be an answer to what is required * Patricia Garvey (NFPT, Ireland) – under what circumstances would be the fellows be deployed through GOARN or through EUHTF   + Answer: GOARN request can go through ECDC * Rodrigo Filipe (ECDC) – there is a strong tendency from NFPs for Preparedness to request preparedness support, also on capacity building, which in future can results in requests in these area   **Selection of C2024 and requirements for MS Track**  *Aline Eklof, Fellowship Faculty Coordination Specialist*  Presentation (slides 51-59)  Discussion   * Hana Orlikova (NFPT, Czech Republic) – when should the documents be submitted and who should submit?   + Answer: the process will be launched in April, Training Site representative will be informed with NFPT in copy   **Other topics**  Adam informed also about upcoming written consultation of the ECDC Fellowship roadmap and competencies (at the beginning of April) | **14:45 – 15:15** |
| **AOB and Closure**  **AOB**  *Jeanine Pommier, Group Leader Continuous Professional Development*  Presentation (slide 61)   * EVA catalogue 2024 * Summer School 2024 on ‘Introduction to mathematical modelling and strategic foresight for assessing and anticipating threats in public health’, 22-24 May, at ECDC, face to face. Invitation to nominate participants to be sent to NFPT in coming weeks. * Recovery e-learning to be launched in coming weeks * Clarification on the recent training on evidence-based decision making considering   + it was sent to National Coordinators with NFPTs in cc   + the initial communication indicated the option for 3-4 participants per country to attend, while at the end for some countries none could take part.   It has taken some effort for countries to select candidates as the interest was high. First come first serve approach was not appreciated as for some countries the selection may take longer time than for others.  Jeanine explained that general approach we are aiming is to reach out to NFPs (with National Coordinators) in cc:   * in case of transversal trainings (like Summer School or Winter Workshop) it would be the NFPT * in the case if there is a specific ECDC network responsible for the topic covered by the training then it would be that specific NFP. NFPTs would be copied in this situation.   As for the information on the number of participants, it should be clear in the invitations itself.  **Closure**  *Adam Roth, Head of Section Public Health Training*  Action point: proposal on working arrangements to be sent to the network | **15:15 – 15:30** |

# Annex I

**Attendance**

|  | **Country** | **Surname** | **Name** | **Role** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Austria | Weber | Julia | NFPT alternate, PHT Coordination Committee |
| 2 | Austria | Lehner | Angela |  |
| 3 | Belgium | Rebolledo | Javiera | NFPT |
| 4 | Czech Republic | Spackova | Michaela | NFPT Alternate |
| 5 | Czech Republic | Orlíková | Hana | NFPT |
| 6 | Estonia | Kerbo | Natalia | NFPT Alternate |
| 7 | Finland | Siira | Lotta | NFPT alternate |
| 8 | France | Lepoutre | Agnès | NFPT |
| 9 | Germany | Gillesberg Raiser | Sofie | NFPT Alternate |
| 10 | Ireland | Garvey | Patricia | NFPT |
| 11 | Italy | D’Ancona | Paolo | NFPT, PHT Coordination Committee |
| 12 | Malta | Borg | Maria Louise | NFPT |
| 13 | Netherlands | te Wierik | Margreet | NFPT |
| 14 | Norway | Amato | Ettore | NFPT |
| 15 | Portugal | Da Silva Nogueira | Paulo | NFPT |
| 16 | Romania | Zaharia | Alina-Daniela | NFPT |
| 17 | Spain | Herrador Ortiz | Zaida | NFPT |
| 18 | Sweden | Rehn | Moa | NFPT |
| 19 | ECDC | Beer | Netta | ECDC |
| 20 | ECDC | Bogatynska | Urszula | ECDC |
| 21 | ECDC | Boncan | Adrian | ECDC |
| 22 | ECDC | Eklof | Aline | ECDC |
| 23 | ECDC | Filipe | Rodrigo | ECDC |
| 24 | ECDC | Freudenberg | Suzanne | ECDC |
| 25 | ECDC | Ismail-Clarke | Rosinah | ECDC |
| 26 | ECDC | Jung | Heidi | ECDC |
| 27 | ECDC | Lof | Emma | ECDC |
| 28 | ECDC | Mittag-Leffler | Kristina | ECDC |
| 29 | ECDC | Palmer | Katie | ECDC |
| 30 | ECDC | Plymoth | Amelie | ECDC |
| 31 | ECDC | Pommier | Jeanine | ECDC |
| 32 | ECDC | Roth | Adam | ECDC |
| 33 | ECDC | Troncoso-Campos | Adrian | ECDC |