



PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union is pleased to provide the following practical information to help you to prepare for the Informal Meeting of Health Ministers (EPSCO), to be held in Budapest between 24 – 25 July, 2024.

DEADLINES

When?	What?	Where/who?
ASAP but until 21 June latest	Appoint a Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO)	Please send name , cell phone number and e-mail of your DAO to accreditation.presidency@hu24eu.hu and mention the meeting code in the object: EPSCO HEALTH
17 June – 14 July	Register your delegation	Novento presidency accreditation platform
At the airport / border crossing point	Distribution of accreditations for ministerial delegations	By Liaison Officer
At the registration desk at the venue of the meeting	Distribution of accreditations for non-ministerial delegates	By LOC (Local Organizing Committee)

DELEGATIONS

Delegations will consist of two types of delegates: **Official Delegate** and **Accompanying Delegate**. Official delegates will be entitled to be present at the ministerial meeting in the main conference hall, meanwhile Accompanying Delegates will be authorized to stay only in the lobby area and enter the main conference hall only for a short period of time for logistic purposes, wearing a floater badge.

Official delegations will be limited to 1+2 format, that is, the Head of Delegation (1) plus two (2) official delegates for the EU member states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and

Switzerland, 6 for the European Commission, 4 for the General Secretariat of the Council, and 3 for the WHO and the Council of Europe.

Maximum number of Accompanying Delegates is one (1). If any additional press secretary, photographer, personal interpreter, bilateral ambassador or security officer wishes to have access to the meeting venue, they also must be accredited as official or accompanying delegate.

ACCREDITATIONS

Delegations are kindly asked to appoint a Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO) who will be responsible for the accreditation of every member of their delegation.

For the accreditation link and code please apply with the data below at the following e-mail address: accreditation.presidency@hu24eu.hu.

Please mention the name of the event (EPSCO HEALTH) in the **subject** of the e-mail.

The following data of the DAO should be provided in the e-mail:

- full name as in ID
- cell phone number
- e-mail address

The appointed DAO will receive an e-mail containing a link and necessary credentials (log-in information) for the official presidency accreditation platform to register the members of their delegation.

We kindly ask you to register at your earliest convenience via the accreditation platform.

Please make sure that personal details are correctly entered on the platform, as certain information (e.g. your name) will appear on the badges. Please note that only accredited delegates will have access to the official meeting and other official programme venues. If you have any questions regarding your registration, please contact accreditation.presidency@hu24eu.hu.

Please note that while registrations of the DAO shall be submitted no later than 21 June 2024, the online accreditation platform will ultimately be closed on 14 July 2024.

All personal information provided for accreditation will be processed in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which can be found at the accreditation system.

BADGES

Access to the meeting venue requires a valid personalized badge or pin, which can be obtained after the registration request had been approved and the accreditation is confirmed by a confirmation message through Novento. Pins and badges will be distributed by the designated Liaison Officer for the ministerial delegations upon arrival. Delegates, who arrive independently from the HoD, will receive his/her badge at the venue of the conference. Delegates will receive **one single badge or pin for the two-day event**. Please make sure to **wear your badge or pin visibly** at the official programme venues.

Please note that all participants are required to carry on their ID cards or passports, in order to comply with the on-the-spot identification process.

In case of loss of a badge, please report it immediately to your Liaison Officer or info.presidency@hu24eu.hu. The validity of the badge will be immediately terminated, while the organisers will create a new badge upon your request.

For further information regarding the badges of any delegate, please contact info.presidency@hu24eu.hu.

INTERPRETATION

24 July – Gala Dinner will be held in English.

25 July – At the Plenary Session simultaneous interpretation will be provided by the Directorate General for the Interpretation of the EC (DG SCIC) in 6/6 regime.

The following languages will be available during the meeting: FR-DE-EN-IT-ES-HU.

Please kindly indicate in the accreditation platform if your Head of Delegation will be accompanied by a personal interpreter.

The press conference will be held in HU/EN simultaneous interpretation format.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All delegations are kindly asked to provide the arrival and departure **details in the accreditation system**:

- for delegations travelling by **car or train**: date and time of arrival, the border crossing point to Hungary, and arrival destination point,

- for delegations travelling by **plane**: date and time of arrival and departure, as well as the flight number and the airline. Please take into consideration that should you check in any luggage if travelling with commercial flights, an approximate 20-minute additional waiting time is expected at the T1 Presidency Terminal for baggage claim. We kindly ask you to mark your luggage with your national colour or EU ribbon. Online check-in is highly recommended.
- **Special flight**: Note Verbal, sent by the embassy of your country in Budapest to the e-mail EPSCOhealth@hu24eu.hu indicating aircraft registration number; date and time of arrival and departure.

TRANSPORTATION

For the event, the Hungarian Presidency will provide **transfer with VIP limousine cars (for ministers)** and minivans (for all the other members of the minister's delegations) from Liszt Ferenc Budapest Airport to the hotel or to the venue and back to the airport for departure. Please note that the Hungarian Presidency may only provide transportation on the territory of Hungary and only during the official part of the programme.

Delegates arriving separately from their HoD are kindly asked to make their own travel arrangements.

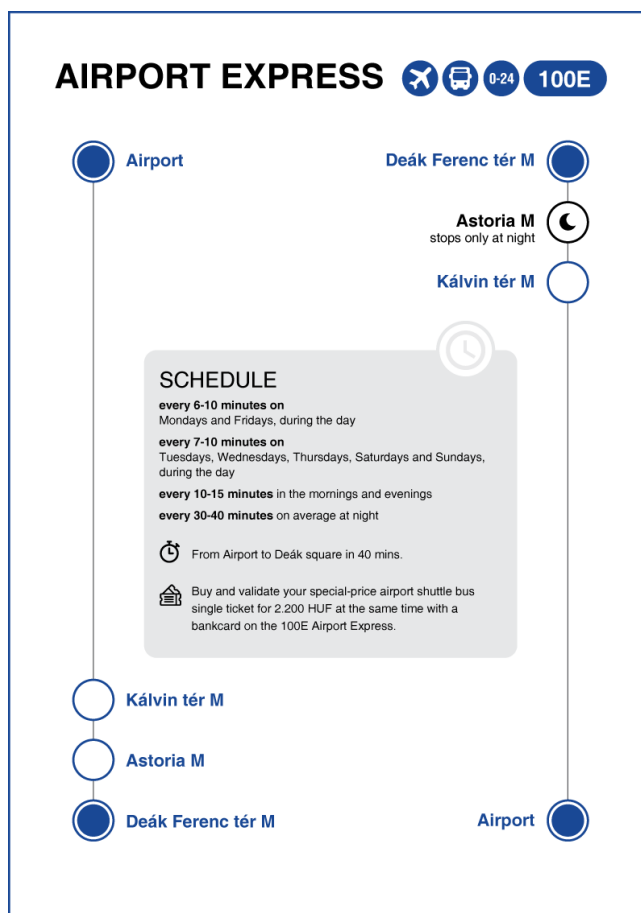
FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE CITY

Delegates who arrive with a commercial flight will arrive at Terminal 2A or 2B of Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport.

Please note, that no shuttle service will be provided by the Hungarian Presidency for delegates arriving individually.

- Public Transport (Budapest Transport Centre – BKK)

Public transport bus line 100E Airport Express provides a direct and fast connection to the city centre. Single ticket costs 2.200 HUF, you can buy by card and validate at the same time on the bus.



For more information regarding public transportation within the city, please consult the website of BKK, where you can also learn about the costs of different types of tickets and information on public transport routes: <https://bkk.hu/en/>

- Taxi

At your landing spot, Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport, you have the opportunity to book a taxi to get you to your accommodation. The official partner of Budapest Airport is Főtaxi (tel. +36 1 222 2 222, <https://fotaxi.hu/en/>). Főtaxi operates a designated office outside of the arrival terminal.

SECURITY

Providing a safe environment for our delegations is of paramount importance to the Hungarian Presidency. For security reasons, badges or pins must be worn visibly during the official programme. Access to the meeting venue will be denied in the absence of a visibly worn badge or pin.

The Hungarian Police will be in charge of security for all meetings and delegations during all ministerial meetings and other high-level events of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and will provide the ministerial convoys a security escort.

Any national security officers accompanying the HoD must be properly registered via the online accreditation system, and must be announced by Note Verbal by the embassy of your country in Budapest, sent to EPSCOhealth@hu24eu.hu.

LIAISON OFFICERS

To ensure that your visit runs smoothly, a Liaison Officer will be assigned to accompany the minister throughout the event and provide any logistical assistance required on site. Supervised by a coordinator, Liaison Officer will be responsible for:

- Welcoming and accompanying delegation during the event;
- Assisting delegation in order to ensure a successful stay;
- Providing logistical assistance and administrative support;
- Distributing accreditation pins and badges;
- Reserving slots for bilateral meetings, if requested from your side.

Contact details of the assigned Liaison Officer will be communicated to each ministerial delegation in due course. Liaison Officer provides services for whole delegation as a single point of contact.

BILATERAL MEETINGS

A limited number of bilateral boxes will be available at the main conference venue. Meeting rooms are available in the neighbouring Döbrentei Office Building (50 m walking distance). Reservations will be handled on a „**first come-first served**” basis. The Hungarian Presidency does not provide interpretation for bilateral meetings. **You can book a meeting room by contacting your assigned Liaison Officer or sending an e-mail to EPSCOhealth@hu24eu.hu.**

ACCOMMODATION

Please note that **Hungarian EU Presidency** has booked hotel rooms and will **cover the costs for Head of Delegation plus one (1) member** of his/her delegation at **Kempinski Hotel** ([1051 Budapest, Erzsébet tér 7.](#)) for one night (24 July). Breakfast is included but any additional expenses (beverages, lunches, laundry service etc.) or additional nights that extend beyond the official meeting (period mentioned above) as well as any extra hotel rooms must be managed and covered by the delegation itself.

For the **other members of the delegations**, hotel rooms have been only pre-booked at Mercure Hotel ([1052 Budapest, Váci utca 20](#)), so please be sure to make your own reservation by sending your request and the meeting code (EPSCO HEALTH) to: HU24EU@jettravel.hu.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Please note that this programme is subject to change.

24 JULY 2024 (WEDNESDAY)

19:00-22:00	Dinner with a Cultural Programme at Királyi Lovarda
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25 JULY 2024 (THURSDAY)

09:00-09:30	Handshake and doorsteps
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09:30-09:40	Opening of the meeting by Dr. Sándor Pintér, Minister of Interior, and Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health
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09:40-11:40	WORKING SESSION I – European action against cardiovascular diseases (policy debate)
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Chair:

Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health

Keynote speaker:

Professor Elias Mossialos (WHO advisor, co-Director of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies)

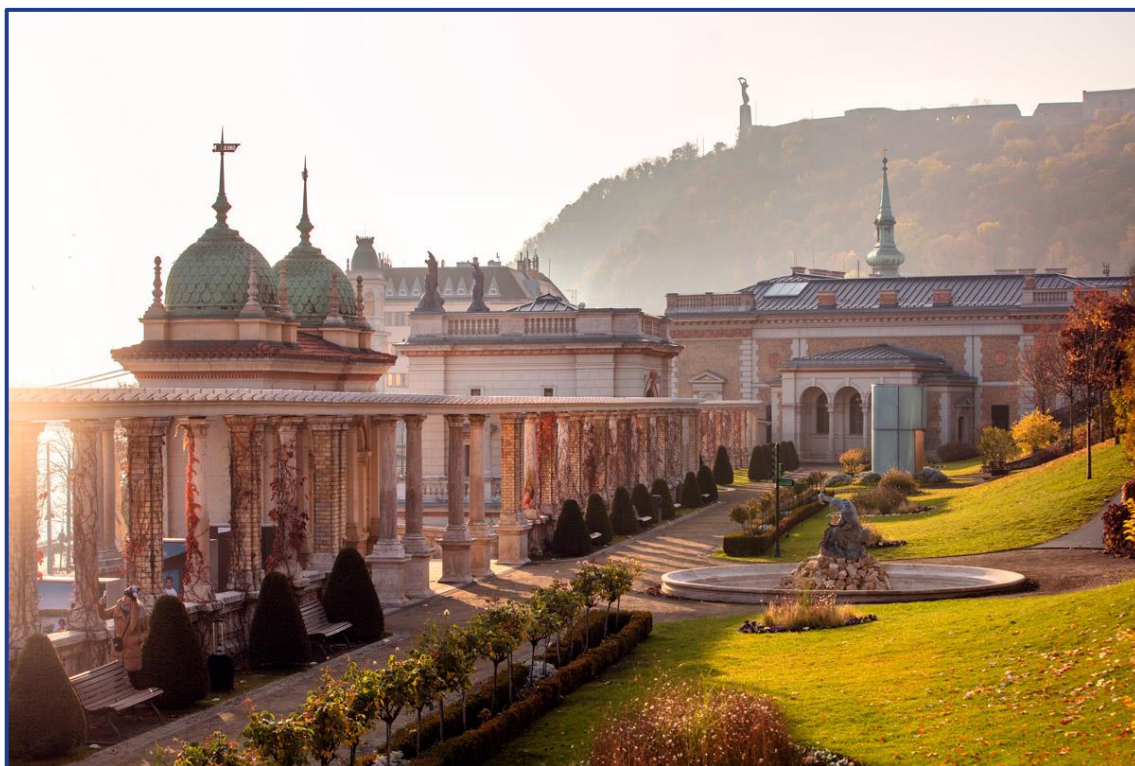
<hr/> Speakers: Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Intervention by Member States/ EFTA (30 interventions) Final remarks – Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Closing remarks, information on family photo and inviting to lunch, Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health	
11:40-12:10	FAMILY PHOTO (All Heads of Delegations 1+ 0)
12:10-13:30	WORKING LUNCH - Implementation of the European Health Data Space (All Heads of Delegations 1+ 0; Commissioner 1+1) Introduction – Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Intervention by Member States/ EFTA (30 interventions) Concluding remarks – Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health
13:30-14:00	OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE Minister of State for Health; Commissioner for Health and Food Safety
14:00-16:00	WORKING SESSION II – European cooperation in the field of transplantation (policy debate) Chair: Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health Keynote speaker: Professor Sándor Mihály, Director of transplantation at Hungarian National Blood Transfusion Service Speakers: Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Intervention by Member States/ EFTA (30 interventions) Final remarks – Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Closing remarks – Dr. Péter Takács, Minister of State for Health

VENUES

The **informal EPSCO Health Council Meeting** of the Hungarian Presidency will be held at different high representative locations.

When?	Venue	Address
24 July 2024	<i>gala dinner</i> Királyi Lovarda (Royal Riding Hall)	Csikós udvar 1014 Budapest
25 July 2024	<i>meeting</i> Várkert Bazár (Castle Garden Bazaar)	Ybl Miklós Square 2-6 1013 Budapest

VENUE OF THE MEETING



The Informal Meeting will be held at “Várkert Bazár” - <https://varkertbazar.hu/en>.

Built between 1875-1883, in neo-Renaissance style, according to the plans of Miklós Ybl, Várkert Bazár is a delightful harmony of past and present, classical and modern, culture and

entertainment, making it a space for a wide variety of programmes, concerts, exhibitions and initiatives. The Várkert Bazár's exhibition spaces, multifunctional event space, neo-Renaissance garden, restaurants and café all serve the purpose of providing visitors with a place to meet and enjoy themselves at any time of the year. The complex also hosts temporary exhibitions, outdoor / indoor events and contains a large, **900 m² conference hall, equipped with all necessary modern and high-quality meeting infrastructure.**

Please note that parking during events is available in the multi-level underground garage at Várkert Bazár (Level 0 has 4-meter headroom, all other levels 2-meter headroom) by prior arrangement, with retroactive settlement, on the basis of actual, verified parking time. Access is granted at 1013 Budapest, Apród Street 1-3.

VENUE OF THE GALA DINNER



The rebuilt [Királyi Lovarda \(Royal Riding Hall\)](#) is one of the most impressive buildings of the Buda Castle, surrounded by the also renovated Csikós Courtyard, which can be an excellent outdoor venue for events. Upon entering the building, the grand and elegant Royal Riding Hall opens up, which with its 640 sqm floor area and almost 15-meter high ceiling can serve as an exceptional venue for large corporate events, conferences, exhibitions, or even balls and weddings.

MEDIA

Media representatives are welcome to attend to the press conference.

To attend the event, media representatives need to obtain a media accreditation via a special invitation letter to be sent out at a later date. Due to security reasons, the accreditation period for media will be closed a few days prior to the event. Transport arrangements for media representatives must be dealt with individually. All journalists must wear a badge at all times, and are required to have an ID card at hand.

For any media-related questions, please contact us at the following email address: media.presidency@hu24eu.hu.

OTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Emergency number: 112 (fire brigade, medical assistance)

Electricity: The voltage in Hungary is 230V, 50 Hz.

Local time: Central European Summer Time Zone (CEST) – GMT +2:00

Country code: Hungary +36

Currency: The official currency of Hungary is the Hungarian Forint. For official daily exchange rates, please consult the website of the Magyar Nemzeti Bank (National Bank of Hungary): <https://www.mnb.hu/en/arfolyamok>

Weather in Hungary: <https://met.hu/en/idojaras/>

Tap water: Hungarian water is regularly tested for quality and is safe to drink.

Smoking: Smoking is only allowed in the designated area of the official meeting spaces.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Should you have any questions regarding the logistical aspects of the event, or about the details of the programme, please contact us at the following e-mail address: HUPRES_HC_SOC@bm.gov.hu.