

EFN PRESS RELEASE

08 October 2014

EFN MEETS THE CHIEF NURSING OFFICERS IN ROME

Three EFN representatives spoke at the Chief Nursing Officers' (CNOs) meeting in Rome, on 6–7 October 2014, on the following topics: Primary Care; the implementation of the Directive 2013/55/EU on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications; and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). EFN President (Ms Marianne Sipilä), EFN General Secretary (Mr Paul De Raeve), and Ms Grete Christensen (from the Danish Nurses Organisation) respectively clearly expressed that a change of both mind-set and health systems is needed to allow nurses to further strengthen their role and to deliver safe and high quality cost-effective patient care in the future.

The EFN also took this opportunity to discuss its competency framework (a proposal to update Annexe V through a Delegated Act – under the Directive 2013/55/EU) with the CNOs, who supported the development of the delegated act and recognised the role the EFN plays in moving nursing higher on the political agenda. The document is now under their consultation.

In addition to that, Mr Paul De Raeve shared nurses' views on Training Health Professionals at the eHealth Summit, also in Rome under the auspices of the Italian EU Presidency, and stressed that in the last decades eHealth has shown its huge potential to support both health professionals and patients on a daily basis. However, to get the full potential of it, it is crucial to have highly competent healthcare professionals. As such, skills and eSkills need to be up-scaled accordingly to the new needs and effectively integrated in health professionals' education and training. A report on eSkills and Health Workforce, led by the EFN on behalf of the eHealth Stakeholder Group (eHSG), will soon be published, with the objective to provide key tips to help the implementation of eHealth services in the EU Member States at regional, national and European level.

Finally, and as an example of the eHealth solutions contributing to enhancing professional practice, the Spanish General Council of Nursing presented the "eCare" platform which provides access and management of nursing knowledge and nurse prescribing, facilitating clinical practice by ensuring safety and quality for both, professionals and patients. The "eCare" platform is thus enabling a more efficient delivery of care, better integrated, and being an education tool that supports nurses in their daily practice.

The EFN thanks the Italian EU Presidency for its support in providing an excellent framework of collaboration and invites our Latvian colleagues to continue the progress made in their upcoming EU Presidency.

END

Please contact Mr Paul de Raeve, General Secretary of the European Federation of Nurses Associations, for more information. Email: efn@efn.be – Tel: +32 2 512 74 19 – Web: www.efnweb.eu

