

Brussels, 10th October 2011

WHO - EU - Governance for health in the 21st century

The WHO Regional Office for Europe commissioned and published the findings of a new study exploring understanding and practices related to governance for health in the 21st century. The study makes recommendations on how governments can strengthen governance for health through collaboration and will feed into the new Health2020 strategy for health in Europe.

The report *'Governance for Health in the 21st century'* makes a strong case for **health becoming an overarching goal and a joint responsibility of governments (all sections and agencies), businesses, communities and individuals**. In this concept, it is urged to pursue health through both 'whole-of-government' and 'whole-of-society' approach, intersectoral action, healthy, coherent and integrated public policy and health in all policies.

The study's findings and recommendations were presented and discussed at the [WHO Regional Committee](#) for Europe meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan from 12 to 15 September 2011 and will feed into the WHO EURO draft [Health 2020 strategy](#).

The report on Governance for health in the 21st century is available [here](#).