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Framework for Alcohol Policy in the WHO European Region

Bridging the Gap
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WHO alcohol policy documents

- ✓ First European Alcohol Action Plan, 1992
- ✓ European Charter on Alcohol, 1995
- ✓ Second European Alcohol Action Plan, 1999
- ✓ Stockholm Declaration on Young People and Alcohol, 2001
- ✓ WHO World Health Assembly resolution on health problems caused by harmful use of alcohol, 2005
- ✓ RC endorsement of the Framework for alcohol policy in the European Region, 2005

The new Framework - main pillars

- ✓ Creates overarching frame, continuity and common platform for existing WHO documents and tools
- ✓ Proposes strong procedural structures to support the implementation
- ✓ Lists the evidence-based policies
- ✓ Discusses challenges



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New structure

- Old programmes set clear targets and defined actions (and actors) to achieve these targets + follow-up report
 - Every line in 92 EAAP still valid
- More a discussion paper on good and effective policies, and on topics important for alcohol policy deliberations



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Important guidance

- ✓ Public health and trade
- ✓ How to address possible health benefits in alcohol policy formulation
- ✓ Individual drinking guidelines and recommendations
- ✓ The role of the alcohol industry in alcohol policy research, formulation and implementation
- ✓ Cultural sensitivity and regional integration
- ✓ Relation to tobacco

The follow-up process

- ✓ Triennial Framework progress report; every third year together with counterparts and Collaborating centres; alert the MS and show the way forward
- ✓ Triennial high-level forum on alcohol policy; to discuss the report and to deliberate on challenging topics

Next steps

- To have a new RA
- To set up an expert group; first meeting soon (very important)
- To convene a meeting of national counterparts
- To elaborate Swedish study on the social cost of alcohol