

## Alcohol policy technical visit to Turkey

### Notes of Visit

Within the context of Alcohol Policy Network in the Context of a Larger Europe Bridging the Gap (Btg) The Eurocare Project, Eurocare Honorary Secretary Mr Derek RUTHERFORD and Dr Peter ANDERSON carried out an Alcohol policy technical visits to Turkey. The visit realized between 9-10 November 2005 according to the annexed programme arranged by Btg partner Dr Toker Ergüder.

1. On 9<sup>th</sup> November, EURO CARE team visited Ministry of Health and met with the Dr Hayati Baykan (Head of the mental health department), Mr. Adnan Coşkun (Deputy Director of primary health care general directorate) and Dr. Turan Buzgan (General Director of Primary Health Care General Directorate). All of the officials mentioned about importance of alcohol control activities in Turkey and role of MoH and health professionals. Although there is not high consumption of alcohol in Turkey but it is increasing among young people. So MoH and related institution have to be careful about future trends of alcohol consumption. Dr Anderson and Mr Rutherford attracted attention to risk of high alcohol consumption after joining EU, and pressure of alcohol industry on Turkey. Turkey protected by its own culture and religious beliefs but in near future with globalization and liberalization of market this situation can be changed like the Sweden and other Baltic countries after joining EU.
2. After visiting MoH, Eurocare team met with members of Green Crescent (Association Against alcohol, tobacco and drugs) at their office. On that meeting, effects of culture and religious beliefs on alcohol consumption.
3. Second day Mr Rutherford and Dr Anderson had participated the one day workshop organized by MoH and made presentations on “The Health, Social and Economic Impact of Alcohol” and “Eurocare and Alcohol Policy in European Union”. Workshop chaired by Prof. Dr. Recep Akdur and Dr. Tahir Soydal. There about 36 participants from different institutions and one of the advisers of Minister of Health (Dr. Süleyman Can Numanoğlu) participated the workshop. Presentations translated into Turkish and delivered participants before the workshop and consecutive translation made during the workshop. Coffee and lunch served the participants during the workshop. After presentations participants from different institutions explain their activities on alcohol control. By the request of participants for easy communication, an e-mail ([alkolveyasaglik@yahoo.com](mailto:alkolveyasaglik@yahoo.com)) groups created. Now there are about 71 members.
4. Third day Eurocare team met with Prof Dr Recep Akdur and visited Public Health Department of Ankara University School of Medicine and discussed the role of public health professionals on alcohol control and probable projects in future. After that EURO CARE team visited Doç. Dr. Savaş Alpay vice president of Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages Market Regulatory Authority, on that meeting Dr Savaş Alpay describe the role of his institution on alcohol market and explain difficulties and pressure of industry while controlling market and also need of other countries legislations or laws on that issue. EURO CARE team emphasize once more

their collaboration and interest to help Turkish authorities for preparing new legislations. After then we visited Ankara Alcohol Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment and Research Centre and met with Doç. Dr. Nesrin Dilbaz and her team in the hospital. Dr Dilbaz explained principles of alcohol and substance treatment services in Turkey. Availability of medicines, rights of patients, legislations, number of patients, monitoring systems etc. After visiting facilities of treatment center, EUROCAE team completed their technical visit in Turkey.

### **List of Participants to Alcohol Control Policies Workshop**

1. Şerafettin Çetin (Head of Section), General Directorate of Security, Head of Traffic Services, Traffic Research Centre, Ministry of Interior.
2. Uğur Yaşar Günaydın (Head of Department), General Directorate of Security Head of Traffic Services, Traffic Research Centre, Ministry of Interior.
3. Şükrü Pamukçu (Psychologist), Ankara Mental health outpatient clinic, Provincial health directorate.
4. Dr. Ertan Kavasoğlu (Head of Section), Curative Health Services General Directorate, Ministry of Health.
5. Prof. Dr.Zehra Arıkan (Psychiatrist), Gazi University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry.
6. Aydan Yıldız, Teacher (Trainer) General Directorate of Health Education of Ministry of Health
7. Nevin Çobanoğlu, Health Technician General Directorate of Health Education of Ministry of Health
8. Adil Kaya, General Command of Gendarmerie, Ministry of Interior.
9. Bahtiyar Yürük, Deputy Director, Department of Refik Saydam Hygiene Centre, Control of Safety of Food, Ministry of Health
10. Sevda Aydın, Engineer of Chemistry, Department of Refik Saydam Hygiene Centre, Control of Safety of Food, Ministry of Health
11. Prof.Dr. Recep Akdur, Head of Public Health Department Ankara University School Medicine and Member of Tobacco Free Life Association
12. Bilal Aytaç, Head of Department General Directorate of Curative Services, Ministry of Health
13. İbrahim Boy, Head of Section, Youth and Sport General Directorate, Ministry of State
14. H.Hüseyin Biçer, Head of Department, The Presidency of Religious Affairs, Ministry of State
15. Abdurrahman Akbaş, Specialist The Presidency of Religious Affairs, Ministry of State
16. Fusun Alpay, Head of Section, Protecting child and social services general directorate, Ministry of State
17. Dr. Süleyman Can Numanoğlu, Adviser of Minister, Ministry of Health
18. İsmail Demiryürek, State Income Specialist, Ministry of Finance
19. Metin Kemel Kumal, Head of Ankara Branch, Turkish Green Crescent
20. Nihal Babalioğlu, Medical doctor, Primary Health Care General Directorate of Mental Health Department, Ministry of Health
21. Uzm.Dr. Derviş Aşıcı Şerifsoy, Medical doctor, General Directorate of Health Education of , Ministry of Health

22. Dr. Gülşat Akmemet, General Directorate of Health Education of , Ministry of Health
23. Doç. Dr. Ertan Anlı, Asss. Prof. Ankara University Food Engineering Department .
24. Mehmet Çağlayan, General Directorate of Health Education of , Ministry of Health
25. Dr. Hayati Baykan, Primary health care general directorate of Ministry of Health Mental health department
26. Dr. Tahir Soydal, Primary health care general directorate of Ministry of Health Mental health department
27. Dr. Yüksel Denli, Sector specialist, Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages Market Regulatory Authority
28. Dr. Mehmet Küçük, Sector specialist, Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages Market Regulatory Authority
29. Esra Yıldız, Trainer, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
30. İbrahim Pektas, Judge, Ministry of Justice
31. Ecz. Bilgi ALPAN, Head of Section Pharmacy and Pham. General directorate, , Ministry of Health
32. Dr. Ayşe Gürel, Deputy director Ankara Provincial Health Directorate
33. Prof. Dr. Alpaslan Özyazıcı, Hacettepe University, School of Medicine
34. Uzm. Dr. Öznur Sevim Evranasoğlu, Head of Department Pharmacy and Pham. general directorate, , Ministry of Health
35. İsmet Dede, Head of Section, Department of Cancer Control of , Ministry of Health
36. Doç. Dr. Nesrin Dilbaz, Head of Ankara Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment and Research Centre.

## PROGRAM 9/10/11 November 2005

- 9 Nov 2005 14:55 Arriving Ankara  
15:55 Transfer from airport to Hotel Marina  
16:00-17:30 Meeting with MoH officials  
**Dr. Tahir SOYDAL (Deputy Director of Primary Health Care General Directorate)**  
**Hüseyin ACAR (Head of Mental health Department)**  
17:30-18:30 Visit YEŞİLAY-GREEN CRESCENT (NGO) Ankara office meeting with  
**Metin Kemal KUMAL (Head of Ankara Branch)**  
19:00 Dinner
- 10 Nov 2005 10:00-10:30 Welcome by **Dr. Tahir SOYDAL** (Deputy Director of Primary Health Care General Directorate)  
10:30-11:30 Presentation by **Dr. Peter ANDERSON**  
"The Health, Social and Economic Impact of Alcohol"  
11:30-12:00 Discussion (question-answers)  
12:00-13:00 Lunch  
13:00-14:00 Presentation by **Derek RUTHERFORD**  
"Eurocare and Alcohol Policy In European Union"  
14:00-14:15 Discussion (question-answers)  
14:15-14:30 Coffee Break  
14:30-16:00 Panel discussion  
Alcohol control policies in Turkey  
(Experiences or Activities of different institutions)  
by **Prof. Dr. Recep AKDUR**  
19:00 Dinner
- 11 Nov 2005  
08:30-9:30 Visit Public Health Department of Ankara University Medical Faculty Public Health Department, meeting with  
**Prof. Dr. Recep AKDUR (Head of the Department)**  
10:00-11:00 Visit Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages Market Regulatory Authority, meeting with  
**Doç. Dr. Savaş ALPAY (Vice President and Board Member)**  
11:30-12:30 Visit Ankara AMATEM (Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment and Research Centre) and meeting with  
**Doç. Dr. Nesrin DİLBAZ (Head of Centre)**

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30 Transfer to airport

16:00 Departure from Ankara