



AIM endorses Declaration on Health in all Policies

It is nowadays widely recognised that aspects of everyday life such as education, societal inclusion, housing standards, or meaningful employment, determine individuals' health and wellbeing. Good health is not created by health service provision alone but also and mostly by other broader determinants which affect the circumstances in which people are born, study and age, determinants which can turn to be far from beneficial to citizens' health. The declaration endorsed today is AIM's response to this observation and includes its recommendations to EU institutions but also to all other stakeholders, whose involvement is essential in the achievement of health in all policies.

The way our lifestyles have evolved, influenced by new and mostly sedentary ways of working and communicating, has led us to issues around work-life balance, which in turn impact our mental and physical well-being, to new forms of behavioural addictions, and to eating and food shopping patterns which endanger our health and our environment. A strong focus on environmental change approaches, which take into account all risk factors, is needed to efficiently tackle those issues.



“ Good health does not solely depend on health service provision. This statement is agreed upon by many, from (more and more) citizens to governmental authorities. And yet, when it comes to practice, policies and actions often fail to encompass the idea. Health in all policies is no doubt the future of 'healthcare'. ”

Leo Blum, chair of the Prevention working group.

In its declaration, AIM invites Member States' Policies and European Regulation to address all determinants of health, by enhancing cross-sector cooperation for both policy making and implementation. It encourages to establish partnerships between the different levels of government, academia, professional organisations, citizens, businesses, non-governmental organisations, mutuals, and healthcare funds. For this cross-sector cooperation to be effective, AIM underlines the need for new financing models, which facilitate long-term commitment and across-portfolio budgeting. Furthermore, the document stresses the importance of local level involvement, of bottom-up approaches, and the necessary shift in mind-set in the way health is perceived which should prioritise disease prevention, chronic disease management and early intervention. Recommendations on the improvement of health literacy and of the measurement of health outcomes are also part of the paper. Finally, AIM stresses the potential of settings-based approaches and of big data in the development of more efficient actions and policies for better health.

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AIM is the umbrella organisation of health mutuals and health insurance funds in Europe and in the world. Through its 58 members from 30 countries, AIM provides health coverage to 240 million people in the world and to about 200 million in Europe through compulsory and/or complementary health insurance and managing health and social facilities. AIM strives to defend the access to healthcare for all through solidarity-based and non-for profit health insurance. Its mission is to provide a platform for members to exchange on common issues and to represent their interests and values in the European and international Institutions.



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