



**The EU Care Strategy: the right Objectives are set. AIM Members stand ready for an equally-ambitious Implementation.**

AIM welcomes the proposal of Care Strategy published yesterday by the European Commission. As the Strategy rightly recognises, the importance given to the care sector reflects how we value our older and younger generations. In addition, spending on care should be considered as an investment. In VP Dubravka's words, 'it is [indeed] high time to care about care!'

The document presented puts solidarity, rights and dignity at its core. It highlights a very comprehensive list of challenges, including labour shortages due, amongst others, to the bad working conditions and low valorisation of the sector, in particular for women and migrants. Most importantly, it recognises that long-term care services are a public good, an opinion that AIM shares and defends.

**The role of social economy actors is rightly brought to the fore.**

AIM agrees that social economy actors, such as mutuals, "bring an added value to the provision of high-quality care services due to their person-centred approach and the reinvestment of profits into their mission and in local communities". That key role has always been defended by AIM and we welcome its recognition by the European Commission. We hope that Member States will answer positively to the EC call for the creation of "the conditions to enable [...] social economy actors to play an active role in the design and delivery of high-quality care services". As highlighted by the EC, the implementation of the Strategy requires a shared commitment from decision-makers and all stakeholders. AIM members share that commitment and stand by, ready to collaborate.

**AIM welcomes the proposal of Council Recommendations on LTC.**

Structuring EU cooperation on LTC is necessary if we want to tackle the four-faced challenge of adequacy/ quality /accessibility /sustainability. The proposed national action plans and national long-term care coordinators have the potential to improve the monitoring of LTC policies across the EU and achieve a more coordinated action as well as mutual learning from national experiences. AIM hopes that the implementation of the proposed actions will notably enable to progress on the development of the long-awaited set of common indicators for LTC. AIM encourages Member States to answer positively to the call for the developments of quality framework following the principles put forward by the European Commission, which AIM also promotes.<sup>1</sup>

**Higher quality and more harmonised data are needed to better steer policies.**

AIM welcomes the ambition to improve care-related data collection and analysis. We hope that the task force on LTC statistics will contribute to the development and the monitoring of common indicators on LTC. AIM indeed believes that the implementation of LTC policies should be better monitored at EU level via the European Semester. The identification of common indicators would contribute to achieving that objective in this respect.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.aim-mutual.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/LTC\\_qualitycomparison\\_outcomemeasurement\\_AIMreflexionpaper.pdf](https://www.aim-mutual.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/LTC_qualitycomparison_outcomemeasurement_AIMreflexionpaper.pdf)



**AIM** Healthcare and  
social benefits  
for all

AIM PRESS RELEASE- EU CARE STRATEGY

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## About AIM



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The International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies (AIM) is an international umbrella organisation of federations of health mutuals and other not-for-profit healthcare payers. It has 52 members from 28 countries in Europe, Latin America and Africa and the Middle East. AIM members provide compulsory/and/or supplementary health coverage to around

230 million people around the world, including close to 200 million people in Europe, on a not-for-profit basis. Some AIM members also manage health and social services. Collectively, they have a turnover of almost €300 billion. Members are either mutual or health insurance fund. They are private or public legal entities; solidarity based; not-for-profit orientations: surpluses are used to benefit the members; democratically elected members play a role in the governance of the organisation.

Info: [www.aim-mutual.org](http://www.aim-mutual.org) – Contact: [jessica.carreno@aim-mutual.org](mailto:jessica.carreno@aim-mutual.org)