



# The Council of European Chief Dental Officers

*“working for better oral health”*

## PRESS RELEASE

The CECDO met for their spring meeting in Riga from 21 to 23 May 2009. The Minister of Health opened the conference and introductory addresses were made by the Rector of Riga Stradins University and the President of the Latvian Dental Association.

The scientific sessions, held on 22 May were devoted to the oral health situation in the Baltic countries and the innovative use of mobile dentistry. Presentations covered topics including common risk factors, prevalence of oral diseases and local answers to the provision of dentistry in rural areas. The Chief Dental Officers saw a practical example of how dentistry is delivered in remote and rural areas during visits to a mobile dental clinic in action and Zemgale Oral Health Centre.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May Chief Dental Officers discussed outreach solutions, informed by the field experience of the previous day and by experiences in other member countries.

Feasible measures were proposed in terms of equity of access and the use of the dental team approach.

Manufacturers in the field of dental prevention might play a role in implementing such measures in appropriate communities.

The CECDO-workshop followed the principles of WHO resolution EB 120.R5 of January 2007 and in particular section 3A and 3B.

The next meeting of CECDO will be a joint meeting with Chief Medical Officers and Chief Nurse Officers and will take place in Stockholm from 30 September to 2 October 2009.

Riga

23 May 2009