



# The Council of European Chief Dental Officers

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Chief Dental Officers from all over Europe celebrated 20 years of CECDO in Cyprus**

**Nikosia, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012** - The Council of European Chief Dental Officers (CECDO) autumn-meeting 2012 took place in Nicosia, Cyprus from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October at the invitation of the Ministry of Health of Cyprus. The meeting coincided with the meetings of Chief Medical Officers and the Chief Nursing Officers and was centred on an innovative multidisciplinary approach to primary health care. Delegates from the three organisations had a joint plenary meeting and dined together.

During this meeting the Chief Dental Officers celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and received a booklet, looking back into the past and reaching out into the future.

The CECDO members were welcomed by a message of the Minister of Health, Stavros Malas. The first day of the meeting was devoted to the local situation describing the health care system in Cyprus, an overview of the oral health of Cypriots and the role of the Cyprus dental association. The following topics were covered in the afternoon session: oral health as part of the general health and as an essential of quality of life, innovative approaches to oral health care as a catalyst for healthy ageing, the role of the dental schools in promoting oral health.

Patient safety, risk management and infection control procedures in academic and professional activities were the main themes during these two days.

The workshop was on these topics. It concluded that there was a need for comprehensive Pan-European activities on establishing standards and guidelines. The domains within the guidelines should include a number of core topics such as: infection control, radiation safety, patient records and confidentiality and better information exchange between all health care and oral health care workers.

Paula Vassallo (Malta) will take over the Presidency of CECDO. Corrado Paganelli (Italy) was elected as new President elect.

The CECDO thanks the Ministry of Health for hosting the Meeting. The next meeting will take place in Edinburgh, Scotland, from 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

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