WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

**WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA**

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Health systems for health and wealth in the context of Health 2020: Follow-up meeting on the 2008 Tallinn Charter
Tallinn, Estonia, 17-18 October, 2013

PROVISIONAL ABSTRACT FOR PARALLEL SESSION D

ITEM	DETAILS
Session title	**Parallel Session D** **Using eHealth to improve health systems performance**
Date	**Thursday 17 October 2013**
Rationale and objectives	The Tallinn Charter identified a number of key actions to facilitate improvements in the delivery of health services: "Patients want access to quality care and to be sure that providers are relying on the best available evidence that medical science can offer and using the most appropriate technology to ensure improved effectiveness and patient safety". This session aims to explore eHealth – the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for health – as a vital contributor to improving health systems performance and achieving universal health coverage. The scope and importance of eHealth in the national context is rapidly expanding to include a vast range of people-centred services designed to streamline access to healthcare resources and information. From the clinical perspective, eHealth is being applied in a number of innovative ways to enhance the focus on the quality use of medicines, improve patient safety and facilitate an integrated health model. Some Member States have drawn significant benefits from the implementation of an ePrescription solution linking to a national Electronic Health Record (EHR). Others have put in place initiatives to increase the efficiency of health services delivery and rationalize expenditure, e.g. a national medical image bank and electronic and automated health insurance check and billing. In this context, there remains need for national strategies that link progress on eHealth to health gains inclusive also of other sectors. Key messages: - National eHealth strategies that link to specific health outcomes and engage key stakeholders are crucial for the efficient and effective utilization of ICT. - Data systems should be designed to be people-centred. They should allow relevant healthcare providers to access information of critical value for patient outcomes while protecting the privacy of individuals. Supporting legislation as well as standards for data exchange and interoperability within national systems are crucial. - For eHealth to be a useful tool for policy-makers, clinicians as well as patients, national systems must be designed to allow information to flow both up and down the healthcare hierarchy. - Central monitoring of medicines – from purchase to health outcome – is key to evaluating efficacy of treatment and guide evidence-based policy making.
Session chair and	**Mr Luka Vončina,** Assistant Minister, Ministry of Health, Croatia

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ITEM	DETAILS
moderator	
Keynote speaker and title	**Dr Taavi Rõivas**, Minister of Social Affairs, Estonia *eHealth in Estonia yields better access, quality and efficiency*
Panel members	• **Dr Bjørn Guldvog**, Director General, Chief Medical Officer, Directorate of Health, Norway • **Ms Olivia Wigzell**, Deputy Director-General, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Sweden • **Dr Fabrizio Carinci**, Technical Coordinator, European Best Information through Regional Outcomes in Diabetes (BIROD)
Proposed issues for discussion	• Dr Guldvog: Reflects on the role that a national eHealth strategy can play in engaging key stakeholders from both health and ICT sectors and the recent focus in Norway for the implementation of a "one patient – one record" initiative. • Ms Wigzell: Discusses the Swedish experience with ePrescription and how it is being used to better integrate primary and secondary health services delivery. She will highlight implementation challenges as well as how the quality use of medicines (effective and correct use and access to medicines) has been impacted and improved through the advent of ePrescription. • Dr Carinci: Describes how the BIROD platform operates and reflects on its utility for policy-makers, clinicians and patients as a tool for improving outcomes.