

European CAM Stakeholder Group Draft Governance Principles and Procedures.

Preamble

The “European CAM Stakeholder Group” is a network of the following CAM Stakeholders:

- i. CAM patients organisations
- ii. Medically doctors practising CAM
- iii. Other trained CAM practitioners

There is parity of esteem between all members. All health professionals have the right to practise according to the philosophy, principles and method of each CAM modality based on the appropriate training, and ethical and professional standards for each modality.

The governance of the CAM Stakeholder Group is based on the following principles and procedures agreed between the participating members.

Vision

The jointly held vision of the network for the use, practice and contribution of CAM in European healthcare:

“The European healthcare system should

- 1) shift its focus from a mainly treatment-oriented framework of public health to a more prevention-centred society in which healthy lifestyles are promoted and sustained”.*
- 2) be extended to include the concept of salutogenesis and the holistic approach of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, resulting in integrated healthcare.*

This vision includes EU level recognition of the actual effective healthcare contribution of CAM as a stepping stone to equitable availability, accessibility and affordability, together with more appropriate regulation and integration of its practice at both national and European level.

That means

- CAM integrated in conventional medicine in the healthcare system
- CAM delivered as complementary to conventional medical care
- and/or provided independently and privately.

Mission

The mission of the network is to realise this vision through agreed joint strategy and actions on the part of the Stakeholder Group.

Such a strategy includes:

- engagement as stakeholders in the development of EU policies related to healthcare, research and other relevant areas
- involvement and participation in EU programmes
- advocacy work at EU and national level
- strengthening the coherence of the CAM stakeholders,
- cooperation with like-minded NGOs
- etc.

Principles and Procedures

Members agree to mutually share relevant information in the interest of the Stakeholder Group.

The Stakeholder Group shall take decisions on strategy, joint action and follow-up by consensus.

Members/organizations agree to respect each other's individual agenda.

Joint actions may include distinct positions of member or sectors of members which are respected by the Stakeholder Group.

The existence of legitimate particular interests of each member may require individual action. Each member will act in taking account of the interests of the Stakeholder Group.

Each stakeholder reserves the right to nominate its own representatives to the Stakeholder Group.

Each representative to the Group has to be mandated or empowered to make decisions at group meetings.

Any new members to the Group must agree to abide by these principles and procedures. New membership admission shall be by consensus of the Group.

Meetings, correspondence and secretariat

The chairing of each meeting is rotated between the stakeholder groups.

Meeting minutes-taking is rotated at each meeting and circulated within 7 days for approval by all.

All correspondence to and from the Group or its nominated representatives or Secretariats is forwarded concurrently to all.

Secretariat(s) established by the Group:

- Have administrative functions only;
- Act only on instruction from the whole Group or designated Steering Group.

Review

The Group will review these Governance procedures after one year and make whatever changes may be deemed desirable unless in the meantime any of these provisions is deemed to be inimical to the interests of any of the stakeholders or the whole Group, in which case a proposal for change will be brought to the next Group meeting.

Address

The address of the Group, for the time being, is 194, Rue du Trone, B 1050 Brussels.