



On 1 June the Executive Committee adopted the 'CPME Statement on Consultation on the EU environment policy priorities for 2020: Towards a 7th EU Environment Action Programme' (CPME 2012/107FINAL)

**CPME Statement on the Consultation on the EU environment policy priorities for 2020:
Towards a 7th EU Environment Action Programme**

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents medical doctors across Europe and is composed of the most representative National Medical Associations of 27 European countries. CPME aims to promote the highest standards of medical training and medical practice in order to achieve the highest quality of healthcare for all patients in Europe. CPME is also concerned with the promotion of public health, the relationship between patients and doctors, and the free movement of doctors within the EU. CPME also cooperates closely with national medical associations from associated and observer countries, as well as with specialised European medical organisations and international medical associations.

CPME¹ warmly welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the EU environment policy priorities for 2020.

For a number of years, CPME has been committed to highlighting the reciprocal benefits of health and environment policies and would strongly support the adoption of a health-conscious approach to environmental policy the new action programme.

CPME agrees with the choice of focus areas for action identified in the consultation in this field, i.e. endocrine disruptors, nanomaterials, combined effects of chemicals, harmful chemicals in products, outdoor air pollution, indoor air pollution, water pollution, noise, climate change, and nuclear radiation and has addressed several of these in dedicated policies including recommendations for action².

¹ The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) is registered in the Transparency Register with the ID number 9276943405-41.

² Please find examples of dedicated policies here: 'Recommendations of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CP) to national medical associations on health and the environment', adopted in 1994 ([link to document](#)); 'Recommendations of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CP) to national medical associations on health and the environment', adopted in 1994 ([link to document](#)); 'Resolution on Hazardous waste', adopted in 1994 ([link to document](#)); 'CPME comments on the 6th Environment Action Programme of the European Union', adopted in 2001 ([link to document](#)); 'CPME statement on Noise pollution and Environmental action plan', adopted in 2003 ([link to document](#)); 'CPME statement on drinking water', adopted in 2003 ([link to document](#)); 'CPME statement on Atmospheric pollution and waste', adopted in 2003 ([link to document](#)); 'Policy

While action in all of these areas would benefit from up-scaling and better coordination of European action with national and international activities, also the issue of climate change should be addressed, as it is vital to raise awareness for the co-benefits in terms of improved health which can be achieved. To this end CPME supports an emission reduction target for greenhouse gas of 30 % to be achieved by 2020.

The severe harm to health caused by air and water pollution and noise must also be addressed by the action programme. Reviews of legislation in this area should be proposed with full acknowledgement of the evidence-base on potential health benefits of planned actions. On-going reviews should be integrated into the action programme together with clear timeframes and targets.

CPME remains dedicated to improving environmental health and believes that policy and practice must respect underlying ethical values. European doctors look forward to contributing to the continuation of EU action to the benefit of both health and the environment.