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July 25, 2017

European Paediatrics Speaking with One Voice Initiative

To the Presidents of the 49 European Paediatric Societies and Associations of EPA/UNEPSA

Dear Presidents,

The Council of EPA/UNEPSA is pleased to invite you and your organization to participate in the “European Paediatrics speaking with one voice” initiative. A meeting that will be held in Vienna in the tentative date of November 25th, which will be later further discussed and agreed among the organizers.

The purpose of this seminal initiative is to discuss with all presidents and/or delegates of the European Paediatric Societies and Associations a common strategy, which will enable European Paediatrics to speak with one voice and successfully advocate for European children and adolescents. EPA/UNEPSA believes that a strong and united voice is essential in order to raise the awareness of national and international legislators and policy makers concerning the vital importance of children and adolescent’s health for the future of our continent. Only a joint effort will ensure that children have access to high standards of care, and benefit from cutting-edge scientific research and discoveries, along with the protection of age-appropriate laws and regulations.

EPA/UNEPSA is glad to invite EAP (European Academy of Paediatrics) and ECPCP (European Confederation of Primary care Pediatricians), to collaborate and together organize the meeting, including a joint summit of the three Boards during the same conference. The trilateral board meeting should precede a General round table discussion with all the presidents and representatives of the respective organizations, in order to develop a road map of common actions, initiatives and projects all aimed at “speaking with one voice” on behalf of European children and adolescents. The Council of EPA/UNEPSA believes that a coordinated action among the three Major European Constituencies, will optimize efforts, avoid unnecessary duplication of activities and will result in maximal visibility of the needs of children and adolescents within their local communities, as well as at national and international levels.

EPA, EAP and ECPCP have already proved during the recent past that “speaking with one voice” is feasible and effective through the “Strategic Paediatric Alliance” (<http://www.strategic-pediatric-alliance.org>), which has produced remarkable scientific activities, including the 2016 influential joint “*Consensus on the improvement of community and primary care services for children, adolescents and their families in Europe*”.

(<http://epapaediatrics.eu> – www.epa-unepsa.org – <http://ecpcp.eu/home>)

EPA/UNEPSA is firmly convinced that an effective plan for joint future actions requires an inclusive multilateral contribution of expertise and ideas from all member societies of the three Organizations. This approach will provide the necessary strength to the joint voice and enable the EPA, EAP and ECPCP to successfully advocate on behalf of European children. We therefore urge you to participate in the “European Paediatrics speaking with one voice” initiative.

Although EPA has proposed this initiative we plead with EAP and ECPC to share the parenthood of the “European Paediatrics speaking with one voice” initiative and work together to develop it in an egalitarian spirit aimed at accomplishing our common future goals.

Best regards,



Leyla Namazova-Baranova, President EPA/UNEPSA

(PS: we kindly ask the Boards of EAP, EPA and ECPCP to share the initiative and further discuss and finalize a date suitable for all)