For all its Members States ENWHP aims at developing supportive national infrastructures for WHP. In order to initiate this process in all of the Accession and Applicant Countries (AAC) the network has started a series of “roundtable-meetings”. These events, which encompass representatives from businesses, politics, health experts and other stakeholders, are part of the network ambition to improve the dissemination of good workplace health practices and policies in these countries. The first roundtable of a series of five was now held in Malta.

La Valetta, Nov. 2nd --- Among the around 20 participants gathering at the session were some of Malta’s largest employers such as ST Micro Electronics or Malta-com). Other partakers at the Meeting, which was hosted by ENWHP’s National Representative Maryanne Massa, included representatives from Maltese Unions and the Ministry of Education.

After the introduction by Maryanne Massa, Gregor Breucker of ENWHP presented the concept of workplace health promotion (WHP) and activities of the ENWHP, before Patrycja Wojtaszczyk of the responsible Nofer Institute in Lodz showed how the “Dragon – Fly”-project aims at establishing WHP in the ACC countries.

Learning from each other
According to the Network’s motto, “learning from each other”, Theodor Haratau, national contact for Romania, which officially joined ENWHP two years ago, then described exemplary experiences in the co-operation between ENWHP and AAC countries works, followed by Patrycja Wojtaszczyk. She portrayed the WHP Local Forum in Poland and thus demonstrated in an exemplary way how national infrastructures can work in AAC countries.

The status quo of WHP in Malta in regard to actions taken in this field, the legal and institutional framework as well as actors and practical solutions was again presented by Maryanne Massa. The Maltese Health Promotion Department maintains successful co-operations with some of the participating enterprises and supports there programs for health education. It turned
The audience then analysed obstacles and potentials for improving Health at Maltese Workplaces and discussed ways for establishing the national forum in cooperation with ENWHP.

Future of WHP in Malta

An outcome of the roundtable was, that company representatives showed large interest in a steady exchange of experiences and the establishment of a national forum under the co-ordination of the Health Promotion Department. Much attention was given to developing an agenda for issues to be discussed in a subsequent meeting.

Next Workshops to be held:

Lithuania: November 25,
Cyprus: December 2,
Slovenia: December 9,
Estonia: December 19

The project "Development Of Structures For Dissemination Of Good Practice In The Field Of Workplace Health Promotion In The Acceding And The Applicant Countries", in short: Dragon-Fly, is coordinated by the Polish Nofer Institute. The Network began in 2004 to develop a framework for cooperation between relevant stakeholders of the applicant countries and the current Member States. After having established national contact offices in Cyprus, Estonia, Malta, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, the network analyses the current situation with regards to strategies, policies & practices for promoting workplace health in 12 AAC countries. For more information contact: