

**Coordinating Committee  
Gothenburg****Notes****Wednesday, 8th September 2010****HyppeIn room at 18:00****1. Welcome and apologies**

Participants: Nick Heather (Chair), Antoni Gual, Lidia Segura, Preben Bendtsen, Erikson Furtado, Fredrik Spak (2010 local organizing committee), Joan Colom, Richard Saitz, Paul Seale (2011 local organizing committee).

Observers: Amy Alawad, Sawitri Assanangkornchai, Phunnapa Kittirattanapaiboon

Apologies: Dag Rekve and Maristela Monteiro

Nick Heather welcomes all participants. He announces that Erikson and Preben will join the meeting later. He comments on the duration of the meeting and the importance of having enough time during the CC meeting to discuss all that is needed for a proper management of the network. He also comments on the Skype meeting and the management meeting in Barcelona that was held in order to try to have a meeting between conferences.

Nick Heather comments that the network has failed in organizing good communication between members and that the list-serve and google group exercises have been very frustrating until now.

He asserts that the network is still doing not much between meetings. The network is succeeding with the organization of conferences but more has to be done in between. He adds his opinion that there is no point to have a network if all it does it to have a conference once a year and ask the CC members if they have the same feeling.

Toni Gual responds saying that the network is already worthy with the conferences but of course we should aim for more.

Jim McCambridge adds that the survey that was conducted provides responses as to what the members would like the network to do.

Joan Colom also mentions that the conferences not only serve the network; they usually have an impact at national level in the country where they take place.

Fredrik Spak mentions that members should have different needs depending on their cultures. The conference gives the members the opportunity of learning something new and meeting colleagues and it offers the opportunity to benefit from preparing collaborating research. He finishes by saying that the network is also competing with other networks and we should learn from that.

Nick Heather ends by explaining that he would like to organize several working groups and that CC members will be requested to join them and work on different activities. He reminds everyone of the possibility to resign if they do not feel like participating during the next year.

**2. Review of notes of the CC meeting in Newcastle 2009**

No matters arising from the notes but Nick Heather suggests including two new topics in the CC agenda: Inebria database and Inebria Latina.

### **3. INEBRIA objectives**

Nick Heather suggests that members read the objectives of the network to be able to discuss them.

Jim McCambridge comments that there is a gap between the aims, the objectives and the activities. He comments that activities described are more related to the WHO role than the network itself.

Fredrik Spak comments that objective 2 should be reframed differently to avoid the top/down perspective. He adds that the list of activities should be shortened or organized in different ways.

Antoni Gual steers the CC towards working more on prioritizing activities than on discussing the specific wording. He reminds members that the meetings and conference already cover the majority of the objectives the network has. He suggests focusing on what else we can do and discarding those that are impossible because INEBRIA is just a network, not a funding body. He finishes by saying that the exercise of discussing the aims and objectives could also be seen as an exercise in keeping the network alive between conferences and also an opportunity for sharing information and promoting international cooperation.

Richard Saitz comments that the main aim of the network should be to help the implementation of EIBI in countries.

It is agreed:

- the CC members will work on the document during the year and share the results with the members for approval in the next AGM.

- Nick as president will start this work and share it with CC members and then open it to all members for discussion:

  - reframing list of activities focusing more on the activities that members and the network can do.

  - rephrasing objective 2 to adapt more to particular needs.

  - shorten and prioritize activities.

- Announce the plan in the AGM.

- Also using google group as a communication tool among the partners to test its utility.

Fredrik Spak apologizes and leaves due to illness.

### **4. Gothenburg Conference**

Preben Bendtsen explains that there are no main problems or unresolved issues but he adds that there have been some difficulties in achieving higher registration rates of Swedish participants, mainly because they are fed up with training in BI.

Nick Heather says that in Newcastle the numbers were higher because other professionals than researchers, e.g. GPs, were involved.

### **5. Inebria Latina**

Nick Heather summarizes to Thai colleagues and observers on INEBRIA Latina, the INEBRIA branch in Latin America, and adds that INEBRIA would like to have semi-autonomous branches in Africa, Asia, etc.

Erikson Furtado explains that Inebria Latina keeps providing support to professionals, responding to questions, training (Colombia) or promoting networking among interested professionals in the area. He adds that there have been great developments in Chile where a National Programme for Brief Interventions is being launched (workshop in Santiago, videos and training workshops, etc). He adds that the PAHO resources received for two years have been spent and that some extra financial support is needed to be able to do more.

Lidia Segura offers the possibility of providing some support from Barcelona.

Nick Heather adds that INEBRIA cannot support INEBRIA Latina financially but invites Erikson Furtado to communicate on this topic and to think together about different possibilities.

Paul Seale describes the barriers to implementation in South American countries. He adds that the training supported by PAHO and Maristela Monteiro that he and other professionals (Antoni Gual and Joan Colom) have been doing is challenging and helps to promote EIBI everywhere but has limited impact and results in the countries. He also mentions that support from the Ministry of Health is missing and usually the professionals involved are more psychiatrists than GPs and that some GPs who attend do not have alcohol among their priorities.

Antoni Gual adds that all professionals value the training but they are not in a real position to promote change.

Nick Heather proposes to invite the Chilean representatives to come to Boston and present their programme

It is agreed:

- To communicate about the need of INEBRIA Latina
- To invite Chilean representatives to Boston. Erikson Furtado will inform them during his next visit and will keep CC members informed.

## **6. Survey report**

Nick Heather mentions that the survey was a first successful exercise in collaboration with INEBRIA members and the findings of the survey will help in rephrasing the aims because they confirm what needs to be done.

Richard Saitz adds that the survey report is helpful and can inform the process to be done but needs to be completed by the inputs of the CC members using communication tools like the google group.

## **7. List-serv and communication with members**

- Tool: Kettil Bruun Society tool or others
- Needs: managers, etc.

Nick Heather summarizes the things done and the conversations held with the managers of KBS and the unsuccessful search for a volunteer manager to run an INEBRIA listserv.

He adds that KBS model is very good and informative but INEBRIA won't have the same volume of traffic. He also adds that he would like to see in the INEBRIA list-serv interesting exchanges like the one he had with Rich and others on BI in liver disease patients.

Lidia Segura explains that during the last Skype meeting it was decided to test the google group first and then evaluate the experience by the end of the year and take a final decision on what to do with the list-serv.

Erikson Furtado explains that he does not like the idea of the google group, mainly because it can turn out to be very invasive and difficult to follow up.

Antoni Gual describes positive experiences in finding others to help him with providing references and articles.

Jim McCambridge ends saying that fostering communication among members is not intrusive at all but on the contrary very helpful.

It is agreed:

- To go ahead with the pilot testing until the end of the year.
- CC members to commit to use it to be able to test it properly.

-Working on setting rules on the culture of INEBRIA google group.

## **8. Contribution to WHO Global Strategy on Alcohol**

Nick Heather explains that good progress has been made in the latest conversations with Dag Rekve from WHO. He informs members that INEBRIA has committed to develop by the end of the year two 'Best Practice' booklets, one for clinicians and one for politicians and policy makers. He and Peter Anderson are working on both documents and Eileen Kaner will collaborate with the clinical booklet.

## **9. Plans for 2011 conference in Boston**

Richard Saitz describes the latest developments, also summarized in the documentation provided:

- The executive committee is composed of Paul Seale, Dan Hungerford and Richard Saitz.
- Amy Alawad is the manager of the conference.
- Scientific committee has also been settled.
- Good location, an old jail transformed in hotel. 80 rooms booked.
- Planning a 2-day conference and 1-day pre-conference - opening to other drugs but always including alcohol.
- Grant application to NIAAA scored high and only requires approval at higher level. Very promising.
- Grant application to NIDA is assigned to revision. If granted then in good financial shape.
- SAMHSA is also interested but bureaucracy cannot assure funding until the last minute.
- Focus on good marketing strategy at local level to get as many as US professionals attending who theoretically have got money for EIBI trainings and conferences.
- Specific website being developed.

It is agreed:

- They will circulate the proposed agendas as soon as possible
- Set up the deadline for abstracts very carefully.

## **10. Plans for 2012 conference in Thailand**

Nick Heather gives the floor to the Thai colleagues to talk about the first ideas for the 2012 conference.

Sawitri Assanangkornchai explains that in Thailand there can be a coalition with several institutions and funding agencies on policy research and prevention policy. She says that the Thai promotion office is funded by SinnTax (Tobacco and Alcohol ) and organizes a Thai conference every day with more or less 500 participants.

She explains that their initial plan is to hold the meeting in 2012, in collaboration with, and before or after, the annual conference and with the support of the main Thai bodies (the Thai health promotion).

Nick Heather invites Sawitri Assanangkornchai to join as co-opt members of CC.

Nick suggests involving colleagues from New Zealand (Janie Sheridan, Sally Casswell) and Australia (Robert Ali) in the organization.

Everybody is delighted about going to Asia.

## **11. Plans for other meetings, including thematic meetings**

Nick Heather is concerned about not having any meeting in Europe for a while. He would like to see some meeting in Eastern Europe.

Antoni Gual offers the possibility of using next ODHIN meeting (February) as a thematic meeting on computerized BI. where some INEBRIA members can also attend. Funding for some European people will be secured by the project. He also adds that INEBRIA can be linked to other meetings in Europe, those organized by APN, etc.

Joan Colom offers the organization of the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of INEBRIA for 2013 in Barcelona to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **12. Database**

Lidia Segura explains that the list of references have been transformed into a database available at the INEBRIA website and including the last references on EIBI.

## **13. E-journal and other publications**

Nick Heather explains that the conference proceedings from last year are going to be published this year in the Drug and Alcohol Review and he says that INEBRIA needs to ensure continuity to this initiative.

It is agreed that Nick will contact Robin Room to discuss the possibility of regular publication in the same journal.

## **14. Any other business**

It is agreed that during the dinner some informal discussion on the expansion of the network to other substances will be held.

Lidia Segura explains that the nomination period will be announced by Spring 2011. Everybody, except from Jim McCambridge and Nick Heather, should the resign and, if they wish, stand again for membership of the CC.

## **15. Arrangements for future CC meetings including Skype**

Nick Heather explained about the useful experience using Skype. He says that it was not considered a formal CC meeting since it was not quorate but insists on the need to pursue Skype to facilitate communication of CC between conferences.

Some partners have firewalls (Richard and Erikson) and cannot use Skype but the majority are in favour of using Skype and have no objections to using it again.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.