

*ASPHER address at the Closing Ceremony
of 2nd EPHC-2009 in Łódź (28.11.09)*

Dear Conference Participants
Dear Colleagues

In the name of ASPHER President – Antoine Flahault, and my own, I would like to address you some final remarks. First of all I can undersign all, what my predecessor – EUPHA President, Stan Tarkowski - have just said.

Although, this Conference have gathered a bit less participants than some others in the past - the number of presentations, posters, workshops, pre-conferences and accompanying events – what just Dineke Zeegers a Executive Director of EUPHA have named – is growing and is absolutely impressive. Not only the numbers, however, are the most important. The EPHC have become the real most important, common European forum of Public Health professionals, researchers, academics and the people from the field of PH practice. Also, it become the place and time of special meetings of the prominent representatives of the most important organizations active in Health in Europe.

The Conference was so “intensive” that many, when not all of us - we were having troubles for participating in all interesting events and activities, so many they have been all along and in parallel during the whole Conference.

ASPHER is very glad for our several workshops, presentation and poster sessions, Young Researches Forum – successfully introduced for the first time this year - and the very often visited stand.

Prof. Gudjon Magnusson – a prominent Public Health leader in Europe and beyond, and a very well known in both of our Associations - was attributed posthumously the special ASPHER Stampar Medal this year.

I am personally very happy, that the attempts, to have one European conference which started a few years ago, and in which I had took part – have flourished so well. All of us – I hope – are more than satisfied that this originally joint EUPHA-ASPHER event is growing with the DG-Sanco support and the active openness towards the other important Public Health stakeholders in Europe.

We are all also impressed – I think – of the original beauty of this Conference Centre, hotel and Łódź itself and also for the Organizers for providing us with a such mild sunny weather – unusual for this season in Poland.

From the side of ASPHE I would like to thank then, very much to the whole organizational team for the extraordinary effort, but especially – to I would like congratulate to prof. Tarkowski – the Chair of the Conference, to Robert Klarecki – the Conference Manager as well to Dineke Zeegers and Dorli Kahr-Gottlieb for the great success of this year EPHC. I have also to underline the crucial role of Robert Otok, ASPHER Association Manager who - being not listed – deserved the highest recognition for his outstanding input into the organization of the EPHC.

I am very glad looking forward to the next conference Organizers in Amsterdam, Copenhagen and newly decided – Malta. I would like to wish them all the best in the hard organizational work and thank them for understanding from the very beginning the spirit and unique value of common organization and work together - for the successes of the next EPHCs.

Thank you – all the Participants.

Return safe to your homes.

To those who have reserved some time to see some more of beautiful Poland – enjoy!

And see you at least next year in Amsterdam!

Stojgniew Jacek Sitko
ASPHER Past-President