



Fostering good health through EU action to fight vaccine-preventable diseases

John F Ryan

Acting Director

**Public Health Directorate
DG Health & Food Safety**

Status quo

- **Vaccination** is a **competence** of the **Member States**
- The **Commission supports Member States** in maintaining or **increasing vaccination coverage** against a range of vaccine-preventable diseases
- Collaboration **focuses on diseases with elimination and eradication targets**

Status quo

- Council recommendation (2009/1019/EU) on seasonal influenza vaccination
- Council conclusions on childhood immunization
- Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health
- Regulation 282/2014/EU on 3rd programme for EU action in the field of health (2014-2020)

Current challenges in the field of immunisation

- Lack of political commitment
- Insufficient understanding of the value of immunisation
- Vaccine hesitancy
- Insufficient engagement of health care workers
- Insufficient addressing of demographic aging

The way forward

Italian Council conclusions on vaccination

- To be adopted in December 2014
- Bringing vaccination back on the political agenda
- Basic element for developing a future EU vaccination policy
- Addressing current shortcomings and underlining the need for strengthened collaboration

The way forward

Future EU vaccination policy

- Strategic and life-course approach to immunisation
- Complementing the WHO Vaccine Action Plan 2015-2020 for the European Region
- Working together with national immunisation technical advisory groups (NITAGs)
- Strengthening efforts related to targeted implementation research

The way forward

Future EU vaccination policy

- Improving the education and training of health care workers
- Enhancing MS ' collaboration regarding funding and operation of surveillance and monitoring of immunisation programmes



Thank you for your attention



Commission web page on vaccination:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/policy/index_en.htm

Conference web page:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/events/ev_20121016_en.htm