

**Finland holds the Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2011.** Finland's Presidency Programme for the social and health sector covers apart from social and health policy also issues related to gender equality, working environment, and nutrition. We find it important to continue the Nordic cooperation in different sectors, and we want to bring to a successful conclusion the cooperation projects already under way. The Nordic social and health institutions play an important role in implementing the objectives of the Presidency. When developing the content of the Nordic cooperation in the social and health sector we find it important to link it more closely to international cooperation.

**The main themes for the social and health sector** include Nordic cooperation in the field of welfare and health, facilitating free movement between the Nordic countries, and the challenges of globalisation and sustainable development. The issues on the agenda include topical administrative reforms in the welfare and health sectors, and in particular promotion of the wellbeing of families and older people and development of services. Finland also aims continue the Nordic cooperation on issues related to mental health. Globalisation projects in the field of health and welfare underpin the competitiveness and development of the Nordic welfare model.

**In the gender equality sector** we aim to develop gender-sensitive solutions as a part of the main theme of the Presidency, i.e. combating the climate change and adjusting to it. We are going to start the Nordic Council of Ministers' new four-year cooperation programme on gender equality. We will continue the gender mainstreaming efforts in different sectors of cooperation within the Council of Ministers.

**As regards working life issues,** the main objective is to promote health and wellbeing at work. Finland's aim is to systematically reduce the incidence of occupational accidents and diseases and to postpone early retirement.

**In the food sector** the main focus is on food safety and promotion of the population's nutritional state. The Nordic nutritional recommendations will be revised, and the aim is to release them in 2012.

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## FINNISH PRESIDENCY OF THE NORDIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS 2011

### Social and health policy, gender equality and working environment

- Social and health care organization and quality control
- Free movement in the Nordic countries
- Welfare and globalization
- Cooperation on mental health issues
- Gender equality as a part of sustainable development
- Good working environment
- Food safety and good nutrition

# FINNISH PRESIDENCY OF THE NORDIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS 2011

## *Meetings, seminars and conferences*

### **Meeting of Ministers for Social and Health Affairs**

The topics this year include organisation of health care in the Nordic countries, globalisation work and facilitation of free movement between the Nordic countries.

### **Meeting of Gender Equality Ministers**

The meeting will focus on topical issues in cooperation on gender equality.

### **Nordic Welfare Conference**

The conference will focus on the Nordic welfare model from a global perspective.

### **Seminar on evidence in support of social welfare and health care**

The Campbell and Cochrane Collaboration Seminar will focus on how research data could be used to support the decision-making in and development of social welfare and health care.

### **Conference on Sustainable Development**

The themes include sustainable development from different perspectives and sustainable development and climate change from a gender perspective.

### **Conference on Alternatives to Coercive Measures in Psychiatry and their Consequences**

The themes include human rights and ethics in the care sector and means to reduce the use of coercive measures.

### **Nordic Narcotics Forum**

Finland will host the Nordic Narcotics Forum arranged annually. In accordance with the resolution of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) Finland emphasises the role of culture in the prevention of drug use and social exclusion.

### **Nordic Public Health Conference**

The Nordic Public Health Conference will discuss the Nordic welfare model as well as health promotion, information and best practices at different levels of society.

### **Conference on Patient Safety**

In the Conference, the Nordic countries exchange their experiences of patient safety. There is a lot of patient safety expertise in the Nordic countries and patient safety forms an integral part of good care.

TIME	MEETING	PLACE
<b>January</b>		
21.1.2011	Cochrane and Campbell Collaboration Seminar	Helsinki
26.1.2010	The Nordic Council Welfare Committee meets with Paula Risikko, Finnish Minister of Health and Social Services	Espoo
31.1.-2.2.2011	Nordic Conference on Sustainable Development	Turku
<b>February</b>		
8.2.2011	Nordic Committee of Senior Officials for Gender Equality	Copenhagen
21-25.2.2011	Nordic side event in the Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women	New York
<b>March</b>		
1-2.3.2011	Nordic Committee on Health & Social Affairs	Espoo
9.3.2011	Nordic Challenges, Future Possibilities - Gender Awareness in Schools and Teacher Education	Jyväskylä
23-24.3.2011	Nordic Work Environment Meeting	Stockholm
<b>April</b>		
5-6.4.2011	Conference on Nordic Welfare "What Role will the Nordic Welfare Model Play in Globalization?"	Helsinki
<b>May</b>		
3.-4.5.2011	Nordic Committee on Health & Social Affairs	Copenhagen
5-6.5.2011	Conference on the access of young adults with functional mental disorders to working life	Gothenburg
9.5.2011	Nordic Committee of Senior Officials for Gender Equality	Helsinki
10.5.2011	NB8 Senior Officials' meeting (The Baltic countries' and the Nordic countries' cooperation meeting in the gender equality sector)	Tallinn
30-31.5.2011	Meeting of the Nordic experts network on interpersonal violence	Espoo
<b>June</b>		
20-21.6.2011	Nordic Council of Ministers for Social and Health Affairs	Vaasa
21-22.6.2011	Conference on Alternatives to Coercive Measures in Psychiatry and their Consequences	Vaasa

TIME	MEETING	PLACE
<b>August</b>		
24-25.8.2011	Nordic Narcotics Forum	Helsinki
24-26.8.2011	Nordic Public Health Conference	Turku
31.8.-1.9.2011	Annual Meeting of the Nordic Social-Statistical Committee (NOSOSCO)	Faroe Islands
<b>September</b>		
8.9.2011	Conference on Patient Safety	Helsinki
19-20.9.2011	Nordic Work Environment Section	Oslo
21.9.2011	Nordic Council of Ministers for Gender Equality	Helsinki
<b>October</b>		
4.-5.10.2011	Kick-off conference of the gender equality cooperation with Northwest Russia 2011-2014	St. Petersburg
6.10.2011	Conference on client participation and welfare technologies	Stockholm
11.-12.10.2011	New Nordic Food	Helsinki
12.10.2011	NIVA's seminar: Mental health and Work: Can we improve Return to Work and Retention for employees with mental health problems?	Stockholm
24.-25.10.2011	Food Safety Systems - Share and Compare	Espoo
31.10.2011	Nordic Committee of Senior Officials for Gender Equality	Copenhagen
31.10-1.11.2011	Nordic Committee on Health & Social Affairs	Copenhagen
<b>November</b>		
1.11.2011	The green Nordic countries - an equal player - a side event to Nordic Council Session	Copenhagen
1-3.11.2011	63rd Session of the Nordic Council	Copenhagen
8.11.2011	New visions for oral health care in the Nordic countries with emphasis on patient safety and quality	Espoo
10.-11.11.2011	Nordic Ageing Policy Network	Espoo
18.11.2011	Expert seminar on Leave policies after the economic crisis	Helsinki
29-30.11.2011	Nordic workshop - Work environment and working career	Helsinki
<b>December</b>		
8-9.12.2011	Nordic-Baltic seminar on corporal punishment of children	Espoo