



Newsletter No 5- 07

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Dear CAM – supporters,

the situation for herbal medicines is getting increasingly more critical: According to the currently valid EU regulation 2004/24/EG it is necessary to obtain registration. This has an impact on many food additives in Great Britain and other EU countries which now need to be registered under the „traditional use“ category. In Germany the so called §109a Registrations are affected by this.

Two Green EU parliamentitioners have, mainly as a result of the initiative of ECHAMP, brought Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) back into the Trakatellis Report. On 11th July, after its second reading, the Strassburg EU parliament will conclude the EU Health Program for 2007 – 2013. If CAM stays in this text, it will become an official part of the EU Health Organisation.

Of course we are crossing our fingers, but at the same time questioning how it will then continue....the european CAM community is colorful, varied and offers a traditionally well trusted perspective for EU citizens. Currently CAM therapists in most EU countries have to work illegally – either because they are not registered doctors (in the west) or because they use techniques which are not recognised (in the east). This was one of the results of the April EPHA Bratislava conference, where it became clear to western visitors that doctors in these countries also suffer attacks against CAM. This illustrates how little we can afford to stick out heads in the sand & ignore the future of CAM in Europe. What can we pass on to questioning EU parliamentitions? What answers should we give to questions about effectiveness, safety, education? When will we at last have a rating system which does not discriminate against CAM?

We have recently seen more activity on the subject of a Service Industry Directive. Only recently we heard from the EU Commissioner Kyprianou, that a special directive for the Health Service would be delayed until the autumn. Despite this a slight majority vote fell in the Internal Affairs Committee to reintegrate the Health Directive in the recently agreed EU Service Industry Directive.

CAM as an economic factor – a discovery of the German government, Read all about it in:
www.konferenz-gesundheitswirtschaft.de

Best wishes from Schöneck

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