



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment and Social Affairs
Pensions and Health

Open Method of coordination in the field of Pensions and Health

Screening chapter 19

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Open Method of Coordination

- Definition of common Objectives and agreed indicators
- National reporting
- Evaluation in order to facilitate mutual learning and exchange of good practices

Streamlined OMC

1. Three overarching objectives

- Promote social cohesion and equal opportunities for all through adequate, accessible, financially sustainable, adaptable and efficient social protection systems and social inclusion policies.
- Interact closely with the Lisbon objectives on achieving greater economic growth and more and better jobs and with the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy.
- Strengthen governance, transparency and the involvement of stakeholders in the design, implementation and monitoring of policy.

2. Three groups of three objectives, each dedicated to specific strands (inclusion, pensions and health)

Objective: Providing adequate and sustainable pensions

- Adequacy

In the spirit of solidarity and fairness between and within generations, guarantee adequate retirement incomes for all and access to pensions which allow people to maintain, to a reasonable degree, their living standard after retirement.

Objective: Providing adequate and sustainable pensions

- Sustainability

In the context of sound public finances, ensure the financial sustainability of public and private pension schemes, notably by: supporting longer working lives and active ageing; ensuring an appropriate and fair balance of contributions and benefits; and promoting the affordability and ensuring the security of funded and private schemes.

Objective: Providing adequate and sustainable pensions

- Modernisation

Ensure that pension systems are transparent, well adapted to the needs and aspirations of women and men and the requirements of modern societies, demographic ageing and structural change; that people receive the information they need to plan their retirement and that reforms are conducted on the basis of the broadest possible consensus.

Objective: Ensuring accessible, high-quality and sustainable healthcare and long-term care

- Access

Guarantee access for all to adequate health and long-term care and ensure that the need for care does not lead to poverty and financial dependency. Address inequities in access to care and in health outcomes.

Objective: Ensuring accessible, high-quality and sustainable healthcare and long-term care

- Sustainability

Ensure that adequate and high quality health and long-term care remains affordable and sustainable by promoting healthy and active life styles, good human resources for the care sector and a rational use of resources, notably through appropriate incentives for users and providers, good governance and coordination between care systems and institutions.

Objective: Ensuring accessible, high-quality and sustainable healthcare and long-term care

- Quality

Promote quality in health and long-term care and adapt care to the changing needs and preferences of society and individuals, notably by establishing quality standards reflecting best international practice and by strengthening the responsibility of health professionals and of patients and care recipients.

Reporting : the Strategy reports for pensions

- Spring 2003
Joint report on adequate and sustainable pensions
- *Spring 2006*
Joint Social Protection and social inclusion report
Commission Staff Document on pensions
- *September 2006*
1st wave of Member States Reports of streamlined OMC
- *2007*
Joint social protection and social Inclusion report
Commission Staff Document on health and long term care

Common indicators: Indicators Sub-Group

- Pensions : adequacy of pensions (poverty of elderly people, income situation of older people), sustainability (pension expenditures, employment rate of older workers), modernization
- Health: work in progress

Further Information

- DG Employment and Social Affairs web site on pensions and health:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/social_protection/index_en.htm