RECOMMENDATIONS ON QUALITY ASSURANCE

Based on the information gathered from the response to the questionnaire on quality assurance the UEMS Section for Psychiatry is proposing the following recommendations as realistic to achieve:

I Before the year 2004 working groups on QA in all National Psychiatric Associations (NPAs) should be established with the purpose of:

- formulating QA policies according to national standards;
- stimulating the development of QA activities in professional psychiatric bodies and in clinical psychiatric practice at a local level.

II Before the year 2004 the NPAs should identify areas of priority both at a national and local level.

III Before the year 2004 the NPAs should start formulating clinical guidelines on diagnosis and/or problems from within the areas of priority.

IV Before the year 2004 working groups at a local/clinical level should be established in the public sector to identify local areas for QA projects e.g.: management of violence, treatment with neuroleptics, treatment without consent, suicide prevention.

V Before the year 2004 systems of documentation recording activity and outcome measures (e.g.: GAF) should be in place in the public sector.

VI The above mentioned recommendations should also apply to private practice.