

EAFP Lille Declaration, June 2008

For the past several years, the annual conference of EAFP has issued declarations and/or position papers stating our views on the length of curricular study time to obtain the qualification needed for Pharmacy Practice.

Directive 2005/36/EC states that 5 years is this minimum time and this has been confirmed in the previous declarations and should be our fundamental statement on this matter.

The implementation of the 1st and 2nd cycle of the Bologna Process, in contrast to the minimum 5 year integrated programme for Pharmacy, has prompted different responses in different countries across Europe, from fully integrated Master's programmes to full two cycle programs.

The current situation is neither clear nor homogeneous across the different countries concerning various issues, such as acceptance of 1st cycle diplomas by other institutions, professional qualifications, if any, attributed to the 1st cycle diploma, as well as the possibility of a third cycle professional Doctorate degree.

Surveys targeted on the way faculties have implemented the Bologna process are now in progress in order to find out what the most suitable model for Pharmacy Education in Europe might be at the level of the 5 year programmes.

The EAFP considers the following to be the most important objective:

To create a model for Pharmacy Education in Europe based on a minimum 5 year programme that meets the current and future needs of professionals, the Higher Education standards in today's Europe, and the current state of knowledge in Pharmacy.