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Taru Koivisto is Director at Department for Wellbeing and Services, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland. Her area of responsibilities covers promotion of health, wellbeing and functional capacity, rehabilitation and services for the elderly and disabled, as well as prevention of NCDs and communicable diseases. She has long experience in public health and has been involved in a number of committees, conferences and advisory groups both nationally and internationally. She has served as the chairperson of the Council of Europe's health committees and chaired the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for WHO/EURO. She has worked in the Ministry since 1998 and before that in other positions in national health administration since 1989.