

## **The evaluation process**

Written documentation about the biobanks that were to be evaluated was provided beforehand. The evaluation took place during two days, March 18-19, 2005, in Stockholm, Sweden.

On the first day there was a hearing with representatives from the participating biobanks during which the evaluation panel and the audience could put questions about each of the biobanks. The presentation of the biobanks followed a given format, which included aspects of size of sample collection, quality of material and phenotypic characterisation.

On the following day the panel met and discussed the material. Also present at the 2<sup>nd</sup> day board meeting were: Professor Göran Bondjers, acting director of Swegene; Professor Lars Terenius, acting director of Wallenberg Consortium North; Professor Joakim Dillner, co-ordinator of the National Biobank Programme initiated by Swegene and WCN; Margit Anderberg, Swegene, and Filippa Kull, WCN, secretaries. The secretaries took notes during the discussions and kindly made the notes available to the evaluation panel.

The chairman requested that each panel member contributed to the report by writing the first draft of a chapter of the general suggestions to the biobank programmes and the first draft of the comments of a specific type of biobanks. These drafts were integrated and edited by the chairman. The next draft was presented to the whole panel and for the programme directors and the coordinators of the Swedish biobanking programmes for critical comments and suggestions. A subsequent final draft was presented to the panel for approval by the panel as a whole.