



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change
Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations

Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee Contract Catering

**Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting
Brussels, 29 February 2008**

Present:

FERCO: Marie-Christine Lefebvre

EFFAT: Kerstin Howald, Rafaël Nedzynski

European Commission: Elisabeth Aufheimer

Excused:

FERCO: Yann Coléou

EFFAT: Harald Wiedenhofer

- 1) The **agenda** is adopted.
- 2) The **minutes** of the Steering Committee meeting held on 11 December 2007 are approved.
- 3) **Review of the implementation of the work programme**

Conference Selecting Best Value, 18 April 2008

Ms Howald announces that many EFFAT members will attend the IUF Executive Committee meeting in Geneva on 17-18 April and therefore will be unable to participate in the Conference in Brussels.

Ms Lefebvre mentions that Mr Peter Visscher, FERCO Vice-President, will attend the conference on behalf of the FERCO board and will replace Yann Coléou, unable to attend.

The draft of the joint declaration "Towards responsible awarding of contracts" is accepted by FERCO and EFFAT. The draft of the leaflet "Selecting best value: the right choice!" will be completed by the internet addresses of the different guides (by Ms Sillanpää).

FERCO proposes to help the speakers come up with a joint approach. It is agreed - unless the Commission objects - to allow the speakers to use three or four slides, to be shown during the speeches. The slides will be prepared by FERCO.

Ms Lefebvre briefly introduces the 'story board' for the catering panel of the conference:

- a) Mr Peter Visscher, Vice-President of FERCO, will give a presentation of the sector.
- b) Ms Astrid Lemasson, Human Resources Manager, National Environment and Energy Agency, ADEME France, has already used the guide. She will talk about the importance given to quality.

- c) Dtt.ssa Silvana Sari, Director of Education and School Policy, City of Rome, Italy, will represent public authorities. She will insist upon the emphasis on quality in the public procurement process.
- d) Hon. Gyorgy Alexa, President of the Consumer Protection Committee of the Parliament, Hungary, will present the point of view of a national legislator in charge of consumer protection. Mr Nedzynski proposes to add the question of competition and competition legislation.
- e) Mr Harald Wiedenhofer, EFFAT Secretary General, will focus on the link between quality and working conditions.

In accordance with these decisions, FERCO will redraft the story board and submit it to EFFAT, in order for it to be ready for the best value steering committee meeting in March. The good balance in their panel between different countries, old and new Member States and different organizations is very much appreciated by EFFAT and FERCO.

Concerning the persons to chair the panels, some open questions are remaining: should they be journalists? a different one for each session, and who? FERCO will contact Mr Philippe Hersant and ask him if he would be available. If Mr Nedzynski could attend, probably he also could act as chair.

EFFAT - FERCO "Agreement on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the Contract Catering sector":

It is agreed to identify examples of best practices in two areas:

"Restructuring- transfer of undertakings": Examples in France (responsible: EFFAT) and in the Netherlands (responsible: FERCO) will be collected and the different systems will be compared. Ms Aufheimer will find out who the person in charge of "transfer of undertakings" is at DG EMPL.

"Gender equality": Examples in the area of public procurement from Belgium (EFFAT) and the NORDIC countries (FERCO) will be collected.

EFFAT – FERCO agreement on vocational training:

EFFAT and FERCO refer to the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting held on 11 December 2007.

Fight against obesity:

FERCO has sent the report on its 2007 commitments to the Commission (DG SANCO). The Austrian example. "Besser essen im Betrieb", in which the Austrian trade unions participate, is a good example for an initiative of various actors. As BEUC is also invited to the conference on 18 April, it will be contacted in the course of the conference.

Training manual on food hygiene:

FERCO has received a positive reply by the Commission (DG SANCO- Food hygiene and safety Committee) concerning the official recognition of its technical guide. FERCO will send the draft document to several stakeholders and report on this issue at the plenary meeting to be held in October.

4) Discussion on the eventual introduction of a request for subsidy for the promotion of the "Guide to the economically most advantageous offer" at the national level:

It is agreed to wait for the outcome of the April conference.

5) Miscellaneous:

Ms Howald announces that she will present the EFFAT- FERCO "Guide to the economically most advantageous offer" at the Sodexo EWC meeting in April.

Next meetings:

Plenary meeting: 7 October 2008

Steering Committee meeting: June or early September