



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue
Social dialogue, Industrial Relations

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE GRAPHICAL INDUSTRY

MINUTES STEERING GROUP MEETING 27/06/2014

Chairs: Simon Dubbins (UNI Europa Graphical) & Fons Bakkes (Intergraf)

1. **Opening of the meeting – Approval of the draft agenda – Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2014**

The draft agenda was approved.

The minutes of the meeting of 4 February were approved.

2. **State of play of project “New skills in the Graphical Industry”**

Both sides agreed that the "project expert meeting", which took place the day before, had been a very fruitful one. The demand for the creation of a more permanent "forum" to continue this type of exchanges will be further discussed at the next project steering committee meeting in September, with a view to a decision at the final conference in October. The possibilities for financing of such a forum under the Commission's framework for sector skills councils will be examined in this context.

A first draft of the programme of the final conference was elaborated.

3. **Call for proposals VP/2014/001 – Support for social dialogue**

See point 6.

4. **Agenda of Social Dialogue plenary meeting 13 October**

The following agenda points were proposed:

- Report from the final conference of the skills project;
- The ERDF and possible distortion of competition, including a presentation by a Commission representative, an intervention by a MEP, and a concrete case (SE, NO?);
- Under the heading "societal evolutions", a presentation on learning/reading on paper vs on screen;

- The UK "Keep me posted" campaign¹;
- The work programme 2013-2015: state of play and outlook.

The workers suggested for the SSDC to adopt a joint opinion at the plenary meeting on the 2012 social partners' agreement in the hairdressing sector, and notably on the fact that the Commission has not (yet) transmitted this agreement to the Council for transposition into an EU Directive, as requested by the social partners. Intergraf will consider this request.

5. Assessment of SSD between UNI Europa Graphical and Intergraf

More or less 1 year after the inaugural meeting of the SSDC of the Graphical Industry, all agreed that good progress has been made as regards: deepening the dialogue and mutual trust; and broadening of the topics discussed. Concrete added value is expected to be delivered by the joint skills project.

Concerns were expressed as regards: the absence of key players from important Member States; and the negative impact of austerity measures on national social dialogue in a number of MS, and on national support for EU integration.

6. Future of SSDC between UNI Europa Graphical and Intergraf

The workers expressed the expectation for more social issues, including working conditions, to be put on the agenda of the SSDC, although not necessarily in the immediate future. In this context, reflexions on the 2015 work programme could be started, possibly in a kind of "think tank" format.

In order to further develop the joint work on restructuring, the workers' delegation suggested to elaborate a joint project on this topic, if possible targeting the next deadline of the Commission's call for proposals for the support of social dialogue (25 August). Intergraf agreed that further work on restructuring would indeed be welcome, possibly addressing specific sub-sectors or categories of undertakings, but considered that it was too soon to take any decision in this respect.

The workers also proposed to consider joint action for the development of social dialogue in the sector at national level. Acknowledging the poor state of social dialogue in certain Member States, Intergraf suggested, as a first step, trying to foster participation of delegates from those countries in the SSDC meetings – and notably the upcoming plenary meeting.

Referring to the UK "Creative Coalition Campaign"², the workers suggested for the SSDC to have an exchange on copyright issues with relevance to the sector. Intergraf explained that it had been working on such issues from the perspective of the private copying levy and the problems related to it (notably the increasingly difficult distinction between professional digital printers and "classical" copy machines). It was agreed to discuss these issues at a next meeting and to consider elaborating a joint opinion of the SSDC on this topic.

Stefaan Ceuppens stressed the importance for the SSDC to concentrate on topics where the European level can create real added value for the national level. He also

¹ <http://www.keepmeposteduk.com/campaign>

² <http://www.creativecoalitioncampaign.org.uk/>

referred to the call upon the social dialogue committees in the new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work³ to "consider how to effectively reach micro and small enterprises and to develop innovative OSH solutions".

7. AOB

At the proposal of Intergraf, it was agreed to elaborate a joint opinion on the (possible) inclusion of printed products in Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 "laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market"⁴. The Commission will launch an impact assessment in 2014 with a view to propose a possible revised scope of the Regulation in 2015.

Annex: List of participants 27/06/2014

<p><u>Employers</u></p> <p>Mr Fons BAKKES (NL) Ms Beatrice KLOSE (EU) Mr Henner SORG (EU)</p> <p>3 employers representatives (1 woman, 2 men) (2 EU, 0 new MS, 1 old MS)</p>	<p><u>Workers</u></p> <p>Ms Louisa BULL (UK) Mr Simon DUBBINS (UK) Mr Nicola KONSTANTINOU (EU) Mr Hans Joachim SCHULZE (DE) Mr Pier VERDERIO (IT)</p> <p>5 workers representatives (1 woman, 4 men) (1 EU, 0 new MS, 4 old MS)</p>
<p><u>European Commission</u></p> <p>Mr Stefaan CEUPPENS (EMPL.B.1)</p>	

³ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2053&furtherNews=yes>

⁴ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:295:0023:0034:EN:PDF>