

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE LIVE PERFORMANCE

Work programme 2009

- Project on capacity building in Southern Europe

Following a number of projects focusing on the integration of the new Member States with an aim to strengthen the capacity of social partners mainly in Central and Eastern Europe, the social partners intend to undertake a project that will focus on the social dialogue relationships in the Southern part of Europe. The project will be innovative in this way that it will allow for four different groups of Member States to exchange good practices and in particular support the capacity building in the new member states and candidate countries.

⇒ Application for a project to start second half of 2009

- Theatre technicians training

Since the inception of the social dialogue committee social partners have taken the training of technicians as an ongoing issue on the agenda. In the course of the year, social partners will follow up on the Leonardo project (Live Performance technics) that is piloting a competence analysis tool. More concretely social partners will this year take stock of initiatives in the field of theatre technicians training, taken at European, transnational and national level, supported by social partners. This report will be presented and discussed at a Training Forum in March 2009, which possibly may lead to the formulation of a set of priorities or possible actions.

⇒ Report on theatre technicians training across Europe

⇒ Presentation at training forum early March 2009

⇒ Formulation of priorities or possible further actions

- Identifying issues related to health and safety in the performing arts sector

Given the particularity of the sector, there are particular issues to be taken into consideration in the field of health and safety. Information and awareness raising on possible risks, as well as risk prevention, have proven its use. The committee intends to further elaborate on themes of common interest in this area.

⇒ Addressing themes in the area of health and safety related to the sector

⇒ Considering possible areas promoting exchange of information

- Mobility of workers in the performing arts sector

Social partners recognize that there are many aspects related to mobility. In this context there will be a focus on

- third-country nationals working in Europe
- performers travelling to other parts of the world, in particular to the USA
- status of cultural workers when working outside their resident country within the EU.

In the first two situations, performers deal particularly with problems of visas and work permits. In follow-up of previous initiatives taken in that area, social partners intend to further liaise with

the relevant directorate-generals to underline the particular problems for the sector. In the third case, there are different aspects for further consideration which relate to employment status and to mobility.

- ⇒ Address specific areas related to the mobility of professionals in the sector and consider further action where relevant
- ⇒ Follow-up on the issue 'performers travelling to the USA': further joint action
- ⇒ Exchange of views on the status of the cultural worker, in particular in a context of mobility, resulting in a possible joint statement

- Cultural economy in the context of the European Year on Creativity and Innovation 2009

- Cultural policy

This item includes three different areas:

- Financial crisis: discussion on the public funding of the performing arts in particular in the framework of the possible consequences on the sector following the financial crisis in the world and on the cutting down of funding for the arts in different Member States.

- ⇒ Exchange of views

- ⇒ Possible joint conclusions or statement

- The cultural economy in the context of the European Year on Creativity and Innovation 2009. The cultural sector has been said in a study published in 2006 on 'Economy of Culture in Europe' to be the most dynamic and highest growing sector in Europe. Social partners wish to highlight in the framework of European Year on Creativity and Innovation 2009 the strengths of the sector in promoting creativity and innovation.

- ⇒ Developing a joint statement on behalf of the social partners in connection to the Year

- The Communication on culture: follow-up on the work in the civil society cultural platforms. In June 2008, the social partners have been included in civil society platforms set up by DG Culture. The Communication on culture explicitly refers to the contributions that social partners may give to the work of these platforms. In 2009 there will be recommendations put forward by the platforms to the EU institutions. Social partners will monitor the draft papers and if relevant make proposals on behalf of the committee.

- ⇒ Monitoring of proposals made by the working groups of the cultural platforms

- ⇒ Possible development of proposals for input into the recommendation papers

- Copyright and neighbouring rights in the EU live performance sector

The live performance sector does not escape from the developments in the creative content and digital environment. This puts the sector for new challenges. In the framework of developments in that area in Europe, social partners wish to monitor initiatives and discuss those in the committee when relevant. Other developments happening in member states in the field of the intellectual property which have consequences for the sector may also be included in the context of this item.

- ⇒ Exchange of views on particular issues of interest relevant for the performing arts sector in the framework of the digital environment