



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 on Personal Services

Steering group meeting on 12 October 2010, Brussels

Minutes

The meeting was chaired by Mr Boerland (Coiffure EU).

1. Health and Safety

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) reported briefly on the work of revising the draft agreement from a legal perspective, which concluded immediately before the working group meeting. After the results of the ongoing study concerning the scope of the agreement are known and the agreement is signed, the procedure will take its course with the eventual submission of a draft directive to the Council.

The Chair pointed out that the issue would again be on the agenda of the plenary meeting on 7 December.

Mr Vos (Coiffure EU) assured participants that the final draft text after the legal revision would be circulated as soon as possible in English. Unfortunately translation cannot be guaranteed at this time, but should be available in the first quarter of 2011. However, everyone will already have a chance to look at the text now.

Mr Röhr (Coiffure EU) reported on the workshop in Dresden in the context of the SafeHair project. The social partners signed the declaration of Dresden, which is an additional recommendation, but does not have the same legal value as the agreement. The participants agreed that all the contents should be integrated into the training for hairdressers. Amongst the concrete guidelines are: that skin care products must be available, that gloves must be worn during wet work, that suitable gloves should be used, that salons should have yearly training on skin protection, that an appropriate rotation between wet and dry work should be organised and that breaks should be used for skin care measures. Mr Röhr expressed his and the participants' hope that these provisions will be implemented in the different countries. The participants in Dresden also called on the industry to intensify its research into skin protection and skin care for professional hairdressers.

Mr Röhr also informed the meeting about the planned follow-up project SafeHair 2.0. Whereas the current project is centred on the sharing of experiences, the second project would be focusing on concrete measures for training institutes and salons, aiming to design specific learning modules. Workshops would be held in Cologne (Germany), Malta and Slovenia, and Belgium, Denmark, France, Malta, Slovenia and Germany would be involved in the project. The implementation of the project, however, depends on the funding decision of the European Commission.

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) reported that while the evaluation committee had already met, a final decision had not yet been taken on the application. During the course of the evaluation there had been questions regarding the eligibility of this project and of the Venice conference project.

Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) pointed to the fact that many different actors besides the social partners participate in this project. He therefore considered it important that the social partners discuss their own priorities in order not to be led astray.

The Chair agreed with this assessment.

2. European Hairdressing Certificates

Mr Hofmann (Coiffure EU) reported on a meeting that took place in Vienna on 6 October. He gave a presentation of the main conclusions.



Präsentation
Besprechung Level B,

Each country that intends to be certified needs to pass an examination by the European committee that will be valid for one year. Payment of the costs for the certificates will be made to a foundation via the social partners. A central office will keep the names of all certified candidates.

The foundation should be a bipartite social partner institution with a 50/50 control. The examination board is composed of a total of 4 persons, 2 from each side. The social partners from individual countries, once examined, would sign a license agreement in order to be able to distribute the European hairdressing certificates. The meetings of the examination committee should be held in Brussels in conjunction with the regular social dialogue meetings.

Among the questions that are still open are the precise amount of the costs for each country and candidate and the modalities for managing the office. Estimates for these services have been requested. The goal is a cost-neutral setup so that the income equals the costs plus a small reserve. The precise calculations are difficult at this point since the costs for office management are unknown. However, by December there will be further details on the costs and prices.

Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) pointed out that while the process may appear bureaucratic, it really isn't, and all procedures are intended to safeguard the integrity of what is a real international European process. A central body is needed to administer the European hairdressing certificates. In this respect, Denmark already has relevant experience. There, all certificates to Danish graduates will be issued on a card with a barcode. At the EU level, there is a need for a similar system to document the European levels. For the December meeting, Denmark will be able to provide a cost calculation for the European system.

3. Venice conference

Mr Marino (Coiffure EU) reported on the project proposal, which foresees a conference in April 2011 in Venice entitled "bringing educational levels alive". The European

Commission's financing decision is still pending, and other funding sources will also need to be looked for. The secretariats will work on defining details of the agenda. It is envisaged to invite a new Member State (e.g., Slovenia) to present its training system. There will be 2 delegates per side per Member State for a total of 4 per country, leading to 120 to 130 participants, including candidate countries. The conference will be a follow-up to the successful Rome and Bari meetings, and will hopefully match the standards set there. Working languages will be English, Italian, French and German. Mr Marino expressed his hope that the social partners can agree to this concept and called on them to send their participants' if and when a positive funding decision will be taken by the European Commission.

4. Report on the Liaison Forum of 30.09.10

Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) reported on the event, which was an opportunity to listen to colleagues from other social dialogue committees. He spoke on behalf of the personal services social dialogue committee and presented the agreements on the European hairdressing certificates and on health risk prevention to the audience. The session chair at the forum asked a question concerning the benefit that employers have by participating in European social dialogue, to which Mr Monggaard had answered that in hairdressing, workers and employers work together and alongside in mainly small companies, so that the concerns and interests are often shared. Through social dialogue, both sides can take initiatives that are helpful to the labour market, making rules that benefit everyone. Instead of having legislation imposed, the social partners can negotiate something that suits them and that works on the labour market for all hairdressers. Social partners have the power and knowledge to create rules that are helpful to the sector, but also for society as a whole.

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) gave a brief presentation of the Commission staff working document on the functioning and potential of European sectoral social dialogue, which was debated at the forum.¹



Commission Staff
working Document.pt

5. Information on the meeting of the sub-working group on skin allergens of 29.09.10

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) informed the participants that this meeting was postponed to 8 December due to a strike at Brussels airport.

6. Commission information points

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) confirmed the meeting planning for 2011 for the personal services social dialogue committee:

10 March (Thursday) – working group

¹ The full text of the document can be consulted at the following website:
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=5591&langId=en>

21 June (Tuesday) – plenary

13 September (Tuesday) – steering group

24 October (Monday) – working group

13 December (Tuesday) – plenary

7. Any other business

Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) informed participants that the project application in the beauty sector has been rejected. However, as it is a very well developed proposal, it will be submitted again. Until then, additional countries can be a part of the project and should contact Mr Monggaard if interested.

After thanking the interpreters for their services the Chair closed the meeting.