

#### **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 Plenary meeting on 15 June 2010, Brussels Minutes

The plenary meeting was chaired by Mr Boerland (Coiffure EU). The Chair welcomed representatives from CEPEC and new delegates from Hungary and Denmark to the sectoral social dialogue committee.

#### 1. Health and Safety

## a) State of the negotiations of the agreement

Mr Röhr (Coiffure EU) reported on the ongoing work towards implementing the draft agreement in the form of an EU directive. To this end, the task force held a meeting on 31 May in Brussels with the presence of Mr Tricart, Head of Unit for Social Dialogue and Industrial Relations at the European Commission. There are three issues to be resolved. First, the text of the agreement needs to be adapted from a legal perspective in order to be compatible with all existing EU legislation while maintaining its content. The European Commission is providing assistance in this respect, and the process started at a meeting of the task force with Commission officials before the start of the plenary meeting. The work will continue with a second such editing meeting on 7 July. Second, the European Commission will undertake a study on the question of including the self-employed in the scope of the agreement, with the results available by the end of the year. Third, the representativeness of the social partner organisations, i.e. of Coiffure EU and UNI europa, will need to be confirmed once more.

Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) added that for legal reasons, the procedure needs to be somewhat bureaucratic and lengthy. For instance, references to existing directives will need to be added to the text of the agreement. He highlighted, however, that the provisions of the agreement would not be changed, and expressed his confidence that the agreement can proceed.

Mr Siebern-Thomas (European Commission), also on behalf of Mr Tricart, congratulated the social partners on the agreement that they have negotiated. He reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to take forward the process of legal revision and the study on the scope of the agreement as outlined in the note attached to the minutes of the 23 March working group meeting, and called on the European and national social partner organisations to support the study with their expertise and contacts.

Mr Vos (Coiffure EU) highlighted the importance of the study for the agreement, since it is essential that all hairdressers will be covered by its provisions. He therefore repeated the call for support of the study by the different social partner organisations.

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#### b) Safe Hair project (University of Osnabrück)

Mr Röhr (Coiffure EU) reported on the state of play of the SafeHair project, where the first workshop had taken place in Osnabrück and the next one was scheduled for Copenhagen in June. The project and the workshop had already allowed for a comparison of health protection measures and practices in different countries, helping to bring together different concepts and developing common standards. A survey for the different countries will be used for this purpose. Mr Röhr also underscored the importance of the SafeHair project for the implementation of the social partner agreement on health risk prevention.

## 2. Training

#### a) Venice symposium

Mr Marino (Coiffure EU) gave an update on the project application for the conference in Venice on training, to be held from 2 to 4 April 2011. The focus will be on implementing the EHC agreement. He called on the social partner organisations to send the names of their delegates, with a maximum of 2 per country. Simultaneous interpretation would be provided in Italian, English and German.

#### b) EHC implementation

Mr Hofmann (Coiffure EU) gave an update on the implementation of the EHC agreement following a meeting between Coiffure EU and UNI europa in Vienna. Austria, Denmark, Germany, France, Norway and Switzerland have agreed to serve as pilot countries for the test and for establishing the equivalence of the national curricula with the EHC levels. The national social partners in those countries were asked to fill out the forms corresponding to level B and level C and jointly certify that they are correct.





Mr Monggaard (UNI europa) explained the forms and their content, and reiterated that they should be filled out and returned as soon as possible.

# 3. Commission information points

(The agenda item regarding the beauty sector was postponed until the next meeting.)

Mr Schwarz (European Commission) highlighted the forthcoming publication of the Commission Staff Working Document on the functioning and potential of European sectoral social dialogue<sup>1</sup>. He also pointed to the publication of the Monti report on a new strategy for the Single Market<sup>2</sup>, reminded the social dialogue committee of the next Liaison Forum meeting on 21 June and of the deadline for project applications under the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SEC(2010)964, available at http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=5591&langId=en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Available at http://ec.europa.eu/commission\_2010-2014/president/news/pressreleases/pdf/20100510 1 en.pdf

social dialogue budget line of 31 August 2010. On 30 September, a high-level European conference on social dialogue will take place with the participation of the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and the Belgian Minister for Employment and Equal Opportunities. The day will be divided into three sessions, one each on the consultation, negotiation and joint action dimensions of European social dialogue. In each session, 2 or 3 speakers should present the experiences of their committee in the respective field. Since the personal services social dialogue committee had successfully concluded negotiations on an agreement, the Commission proposed that delegates from this committee give a presentation at the September conference on the negotiation dimension of sectoral social dialogue. For other participants, there will be 2 reimbursements of costs available per side of industry and per sectoral social dialogue committee.

#### 4. Any other business

UNI europa asked the Commission whether it was still envisaged to receive social partner input on the questions to be asked in the context of the study on the scope of the agreement on health risk prevention. The Commission replied that the call for tender had not yet been sent to potential contractors, so any input from the social partners would be very welcome but should be made as soon as possible.

Coiffure EU remarked that there was a large delay in publishing the minutes of social dialogue meetings, and that this made an effective preparation impossible for the delegates. The Commission replied that the publication of minutes on a public website necessarily takes time, since the social partners have to be given an opportunity to comment on the draft minutes. These draft minutes are always prepared after each meeting and circulated by email to the secretariats of Coiffure EU and UNI europa. Members of the social dialogue committee should therefore inform themselves through channels other than the public websites when preparing for the subsequent meeting.

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