



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS DG

Adaptability, Social Dialogue and Social Rights
F1 : Social dialogue, industrial relations

Brussels, 06/03/2006

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKING GROUPS MEETING,
LIVE PERFORMANCE SECTOR, 02.03.2006**

Chair: Mrs. Anita Debaere (AD) - PEARLE
Commission representative: Mrs. Marta Prádanos (MP) - DG EMPL/D1

In attendance:

PEARLE

Karola Baran (FIN)
Rolf Bolwin (DE)
Tony Bond (UK)
Anita Debaere (BE)
Liesbeth Dejonghe (BE)
Ilka Schmalbauch (DE)
Emmanuel Serafini (FR)
Anamaria Wills (UK)

Euro-MEI / FIA / FIM

Bianca Busuioc (BE)
Thomas Dayan (FR)
Willy Donaghy (UK)
Mia Hamalainen (FIN)
James Shuman (FR)
John Smith (UK)
Raimo Soder (FIN)
Johannes Studinger (BE)
Chris Van Goethem (BE)

The parties agree to change the order of the points in the agenda and deal with the TTT project in the third place.

1. Evaluation of the Budapest seminar and conclusions

Bianca Busuioc (BB) explains that conclusions (attached as Annex I) have been sent out. Social partners agree on the fact that the first session (individual presentations) was too long and that this situation needs to be avoided in the Krakow conference, in order to allow more time for other current issues.

2. Exchange of ideas on Krakow seminar – finalising the draft agenda (and further information on the visits)

PEARLE and EAEA representatives arrange last details of the Krakow conference: possibility to have a joint presentation from PEARLE and EAEA on the second plenary session on day 1; verification of participation of Mr Jackie Morin (COMM (MP) will confirm this point in the coming days); scope of session 3 to be widened with some elements of session 1; names of chairs and rapporteurs of sessions 2, 3 and 4; structure of working groups at session 3, etc. For session 4, a presentation will be delivered by EAEA on the services directive and a short paper might be prepared in advance and Pearle will present to acquis communautaire in the field of employment and social affairs. It is confirmed that translation will be available for Polish, English, French and German.

Johannes Studinger (JS) refers to the importance of the visits of social partners from the New member States to the headquarters of European social partners' organisations in the EU-15, and proposes that after the Krakow conference the project budget is re-assessed in order to plan these visits, which is agreed by the rest of the social partners' representatives.

- Follow up: COMM (MP) to confirm attendance of Commission representative to the conference (done: Mr Jackie Morin will be delivering the presentation on day 1).
- Follow-up: EAEA and PEARLE to re-assess project budget after the Krakow conference in order to plan visits.

3. TTT Leonardo da Vinci Project

Mia Hamalainen (MH) delivers a presentation on the TTT Leonardo project (attached as Annex II). TTT is a two-year project involving more than 20 professional titles and which is co-financed by the Leonardo programme. The project was launched in October 2005, the first meeting took place in December and the second working group meeting has taken place recently. MH explains the different outcomes of the project and the fact that the European Qualification Framework is being used as a reference. Social partners acknowledge that the resulting tools can be very useful in the framework of the sectoral social dialogue.

4. Hindrances for artists and musicians to obtain visa/ work permits when touring to the USA (short presentation of the issues at stake by John Smith, FIM)

John Smith (JSM) explains the difficulties experienced by the sector when trying to obtain work permits for performances in the US, one of the major markets in the world which cannot be neglected. Even if US regulations foresee a delay of 14 days to obtain a response, the delay is usually much longer. The fast-track procedure costs 1.000 USD, and on top of that visas are issued for specific events and their period of validity is often not long enough. JSM also debriefs on meeting with US Senator Arlen Specter to lobby on the matter, and Rolf Bolwin (RB) reports to have been in contact with the German Foreign Affairs Ministry and with the US Embassy in Berlin: the parties consulted agree on the fact that the problem could be dealt with most effectively at the EU level, instead of the national level.

Social partners agree to pursue coordinated action on the matter. They commit themselves to draft a joint request for action which will be submitted to the Commission, and ask COMM (MP) to identify potential addressees within the Commission, namely at DGs RELEX, EAC and EMPL.

- Follow up: COMM (MP) to identify potential addressees for the social partners' joint request within the Commission (DGs RELEX, EAC and EMPL)
- Follow-up: EAEA and PEARLE to draft joint request to be addressed to the Commission (estimated calendar: end of March)

5. Identifying issues related to health and safety in the performing arts sector (paper prepared by EAEA)

JS proposes to postpone this point to the 17th May working group, as the paper is not ready yet. The proposal is accepted by social partners.

- Follow up: EAEA (JS) to draft note on Health and Safety issues in the performing arts sector and send it to social partners before 17th May working group.

6. Report of the Luxembourg meeting with regard to the non-binding guide to good practices to implement the Noise Directive

JSM reports on the participation of Mrs. Dalby and Mrs. Coronel-Timmermans in the experts group meeting preparing the guidelines for the implementation of the Noise Directive. Useful contributions were made by both experts to Chapter 8 of the draft guidelines and most of them were accepted by the experts group. The next meeting will take place on 29 and 30 March in Luxembourg and Mrs. Dalby and Mrs. Coronel-Timmermans will also participate in it.

COMM (MP) proposes that both experts are invited to the 17th May WG in order to debrief the committee on their contribution to the Guidelines and on the work of the experts' group. The proposal is accepted by EAEA and PEARLE's representatives.

➤ Follow up: EAEA and PEARLE to contact both experts in order to invite them to debrief the Committee on their work at the working group session scheduled on 17th May.

7. AOB

JS mentions a paper prepared by the EMCC and raises some concerns on the fact that the delimitation of the sector is based on a NACE wide definition (including the audiovisual sector), on the sources used (no reference to data from the European Audiovisual Observatory) and on the fact that social partners have not been involved. COMM (MP) explains that a first contact has been established with the EMCC, which agrees to have authors of the study meeting social partners in the framework of the Committee. It is agreed that COMM (MP) will formally invite the authors to participate in the 17th May working group in order to explain the contents and methodology of the study.

COMM (MP) mentions that the presentation on the recast of European copyright legislation can take place on the 17th May. Social partners agree to put the item on the agenda.

Next meetings (dates to be confirmed four weeks in advance):

- 17 May (working group meeting)*
- 18 September (working group meeting)*
- 15 November (plenary session)*

*Marta Prádanos
DG EMPL D1*

Annex I - Conclusions of the Budapest seminar
Annex II - Presentation on TTT project