



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

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

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL CLEANING

27 April 2015
Working group meeting
Minutes

Chairman: Tim VAN RIE (European Commission)

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The Chairman welcomed the participants. The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting of 9 February 2015

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

3. Social Partners' Project application for EU funding to update "Best Value" guide for cleaning services - State of play by UNI Europa and EFCI secretariats

The social partners' secretariats presented the draft project application, to be submitted for funding under the budget line 'Support for Social Dialogue' by 15 June 2015. If accepted, the proposed project would start in December 2015 and last for 18 months. The secretariats emphasised the important role for national members in the project, as active participants in the steering committee and working group of experts. The social partners looked forward to a successful project application.

4. Effect of the crisis on working conditions in the sector – presentation by UNI Europa member

Mr Trübitz (vda) provided an overview of working conditions, undeclared work and the effect of the crisis on the industrial cleaning sector in Austria (see annex).

Following the presentation, social partners discussed the role of internet agencies and bogus self-employment (which currently is mainly concentrated in domestic cleaning). The social partners discussed the (in)voluntary nature of part-time work, as well as reductions in working hours as a result of the crisis and of evolving work patterns (telework and office sharing). The trade unions expressed an interest in discussing the effect of the crisis (via reduced working hours) on future pension entitlements, while emphasising the technical nature of the subject and the country-specific nature of pension systems. The employers stated that the subject of pension

entitlements is a very complicated issue, highly regulated at national level and doubted about the feasibility to address this subject in the European social dialogue. They however agreed to have further discussions on sector-specific aspects (with analytical input from the Commission where relevant).

5. Joint Declaration in support of the UNI Europa Cleaners Charter - Presentation by UNI Europa followed by discussion

Ms Harvey (UNI Europa) presented the cleaners' charter for contractors and a background document. The trade unions invited the employers to sign a draft joint declaration in support of the charter. The EFCI proposed a number of changes to the draft declaration, indicating it would submit the text to its members, in view of adoption. Ms Harvey thanked the employers for their feedback. She informed the committee of similar discussions with employers at national level (Denmark) and in European Works Councils (ISS).

6. High level event on Social Dialogue held on 5 March 2015 - Report by the European Commission

Mr Van Rie (European Commission) provided a presentation on the New Start for social dialogue, including the High-Level Event of 5 March and follow-up events. The social partners asked for clarifications regarding the role of sectorial social dialogue in the New Start. The Commission invited the social partners to articulate their views in this regard. UNI Europa expressed concerns regarding the European Commission's Regulatory Fitness and Performance programme, and regarding the negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

7. European Platform to enhance cooperation in the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work - Report by the EFCI on the state of play of the legislative procedure

Mr Lill (EFCI) reported on the letter signed by social partners from five sectors (agriculture, cleaning, construction, horeca and security services), jointly asking Members of the European Parliament to ensure that at least their sectors be actively involved in the activities of the future Platform.

Ms Harvey (UNI Europa) reported on a debate with Members of European Parliament, the Commission and social partners on the proposed platform.

The social partners agreed to further monitor the legislative procedure and advocate for their involvement.

8. Any other business

The social partners briefly exchanged views on the forthcoming Better Regulation Package.

Annexes

- "Selecting Best Value Buying Quality Cleaning Services: Joint project application to update the 2003 Best Value Guide" (Presentation by ECFI and UNI Europa)
- "The working conditions in the sector; undeclared work; the effect of the crisis on the sector" from the Austrian perspective. (Presentation by Max Trübitz, vida)
- "Cleaners Charter: Responsible Contractor Policy for the Cleaning Industry" (UNI Europa)
- "Cleaners Charter: Responsible Contractor Policy for the Cleaning Industry Background document: Why a responsible contractor policy is needed in the cleaning industry" (UNI Europa)
- "DRAFT Responsible Procurement Declaration for the Cleaning Industry"