

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE CONSTRUCTION**Summary of the Working Group Meeting****"Health & Safety" - 6 March 2018**

The meeting is chaired by Mr. U. Spannow (EFBWW)

1. Welcome

The EFBWW asks to add an item concerning the "Construction Products Regulation" under "Miscellaneous".

2. Minutes of the Social Dialogue meeting held on 16/10/2017

Given that the meeting does not benefit from the financial support of the European Commission R. Gehring (EFBWW) and D. Campogrande (FIEC) will jointly prepare the draft minutes of today's meeting, with the support of the European Commission.

The participants approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16/10/2017 with one modification :

- add "FIEC" at the bottom of page 3 amongst the partners of the project "Working safely with earth-moving machines" : EFBWW-**FIEC**-CECE.

3. Joint statement on the EU Communication on OSH

Mr. Spannow (EFBWW) indicates that the draft joint statement is a good document overall, which needs some further minor adaptations.

The participants agree to finalise it within 1 month after the meeting and then to jointly disseminate it. The 2 Secretariats will coordinate this.

4. Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

Mr. Spannow (EFBWW) explains that companies and workers need some support in order to ensure compliance at the workplace with the provisions of the revised "Carcinogens" Directive and wonders whether this support should focus on "dust" in general or on RCS only.

He reminds that a joint EFBWW-FIEC Working Group on this issue was set up with the aim of preparing a possible joint project to be submitted in 2019.

Mr. Sonnberger (FIEC) reminds about the importance of involving also the clients, so that possible exposure to dust can be taken into account already during the design phase.

5. Working safer with earth moving machines

The participants discuss possible follow-up initiatives to the joint EFBWW-FIEC-CECE project and consider that “Market surveillance” could be an interesting issue.

The 3 partners will check if in this respect there are possible issues of joint interest for a joint lobbying.

6. Project on “Mental health in the construction industry”

Mr. Gehring (EFBWW) presents the latest developments about this joint project.

No questions or issues of concern are raised by the participants.

7. Demographic changes

Mr. Spannow (EFBWW) reminds that a first working document on this issue was prepared by the EFBWW before the previous meeting, but the topic still needs to mature further within the two organisations, in order to be able to define possible joint initiatives.

A representative of the EFBWW raises the problem of pensions in France and indicates that it is very difficult for construction workers to continue working until the age of 60 or 65.

Mr. Gehring (EFBWW) considers that the issue should be addressed with a holistic approach taking into account issues such as :

- How to keep workers in the sector ?
- Construction is a arduous work : how to reduce working time ?

Mr. Spannow concluded that the issue is considered by both parties as relevant for the future and should stay on the Social Dialogues agenda. Specific joint action should be considered.

8. H&S aspects in “Construction 4.0”

Mr. Campogrande (FIEC) explains that a working group entitled “Construction 4.0” was set up within FIEC, in order to address issues related to the increasing digitalisation of the sector. Within this working group various issues (technical, legal, skills,...) are addressed and at the last meeting participants also discussed how to further improve health and safety on construction worksites by means of digitalisation (BIM-Building Information Modelling for example).

Mr. Spannow (EFBWW) indicates that digitalisation can have positive aspects if it can improve OSH, in particular if it is possible to influence the design of technology and its practical implementation.

The participants consider it positive to address the issue at the Social Dialogue level.

FIEC will involve the EFBWW in one of the next meetings of its Working Group.

9. Miscellaneous

- CCMI (Consultative Commission on Industrial Change) :
Mr. Gehring (EFBWW) explains that this Committee, which is part of the European Economic and Social Committee) is envisaging a possible new own initiative/opinion on Asbestos.

It could cover issues such as :

- Limit values for Asbestos
- Training of workers
- Mapping Asbestos

A proposal should be presented towards the end of March.

- Construction Products Regulation (CPR) :
There is an on-going consultation on this Regulation (deadline for answering : 16/4/2018).

10. Next meeting

The next Social Dialogue Health & Safety meeting will take place on 10th October 2018.
